

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OHIO JUDICIAL CON- FERENCE

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the Ohio Judicial Conference on the celebration of their 50th anniversary.

For 50 years, the Ohio Judicial Conference has worked to maintain the coequal status of the judicial branch of government in relation to the legislative and executive branches while furthering its goal of informing the public about the judicial system. Furthermore, they have worked to provide leadership to those involved in the Ohio judicial system and uniformity in the application of law. The Ohio Judicial Conference holds values such as stewardship, service, and communication in high regard, and these values have enabled the success which the organization enjoys today.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I proudly recognize the Ohio Judicial Conference. They have put forth a great deal of effort into their cause and have been rewarded with much success. I look forward to seeing what the next 50 years will hold for this organization.

CONGRATULATING TONY SKINNER

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I pay tribute to Tony Skinner, a highly dedicated Ventura County resident, whose commitment to the development and growth of today's skilled labor force is remarkable and commendable.

For the past 10 years, Tony has served as the President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local #952. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers represents 750,000 active members and retirees who work in a wide variety of fields, including utilities, construction, telecommunications, broadcasting, and manufacturing. Under his leadership, IBEW Local #952 has been instrumental in ensuring the strengthening and prosperity of Ventura County's technical and high-skilled occupations.

Tony has worked to organize, mobilize, reach out to community partners, and build coalitions to change people's lives. He has been a staunch and unwavering leader in the labor community that has dedicated his career to working for our county's working families.

As an advocate for technical and vocational training in the region, he has worked to bring to fruition a vision for a strong and relevant 21st century workforce. Tony founded the Ar-

chitecture, Construction and Engineering High School in Camarillo, a unique and distinctive school that seeks to prepare students for construction affiliated careers through demanding circumstantial, hands-on curriculum that prepares them for higher education, apprenticeship programs, or a career. Tony currently presides as the President of the Board of Directors for the school.

In addition, Tony's service to the community is extensive. He currently serves on multiple local industry associations and boards including the Tri-Counties Central Labor Council, the Ventura County Workforce Investment Board, and the Economic Development Collaborative of Ventura County.

Tony personifies dedication and commitment to the growing workforce in Ventura County. I am pleased to join Ventura County's Tri-Counties Building and Construction Trades Council in honoring Tony Skinner as a true champion of America's workers.

HONORING GEORGIA SHAPE HONOR ROLL RECIPIENTS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate 19 schools in Georgia's 11th District for being awarded medals in the SHAPE Honor Roll program.

As a former member of the Marietta school board, it is a great source of pride to see students back home working hard to create healthy habits that will last them a lifetime.

Under the leadership of Governor Deal last year, the SHAPE program began as a statewide initiative in Georgia to help combat childhood obesity and create lifelong healthy habits through physical activity, nutrition, and wellness. Since then, a dedicated network of partners, agencies, and athletic teams have joined forces in their commitment to helping Georgia's youth achieve a greater level of fitness and commend public schools that help them do so.

This year's esteemed award-winners include public institutions from the elementary to high school level across the state of Georgia. Students, parents, administration officials, and instructors have gone above and beyond their duties in ensuring that their youth understand the mental and physical benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and should look upon this accomplishment with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Speaker, this distinguished group of awarded educational communities has established a benchmark of excellence which schools across the nation should aspire to. On behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I congratulate these educational communities on this achievement, and extend my deepest thanks for their dedication to the youth of our community.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF MICHAEL VOSBURG-CASEY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary young man, Michael Vosburg-Casey, who passed away on July 31, 2013, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Michael will forever be remembered as a devoted husband to his wife Amy, adoring father of his daughter Elena, and the loving son of Betty and Tom Casey. He will be deeply missed by his brother Dr. Daniel Casey and his wife Sarah and children Megan and Brendan; and by his sister Elizabeth Casey Pereira and her husband Vincent. I count myself blessed to have known the Casey family for many decades, and I'm proud to be among the countless people who know and respect their family.

Michael Casey was born in Redwood City, California on March 13, 1974 and attended local schools. A graduate of Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose and Colby College in Maine, he worked briefly for the San Mateo County Park System. He then joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corp, moved to Texas, then Atlanta, and eventually joined the Open Door Community and worked with the Georgia Justice Project where he met his wife Amy Vosburg. Michael's unswerving faith moved him to take on every cause with a passion—helping the homeless, visiting prisoners, and serving the poor. He devoted his life to pursuing peace and justice, and annually protested against the School of the Americas. Michael's commitment was so great that he willingly served time in federal prison for his beliefs.

His three-year-old daughter was the joy of his life. He brought her with him to visit the sick, to soup kitchens and to demonstrate for peace. He was a piano tuner, a chicken farmer, and he taught his daughter to sing and dance in the rain. Michael was a force for good and a courageous, generous fighter for justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Michael Vosburg-Casey and extend our sympathy to his entire family. His time on earth was brief, but his love of humanity, his decency and his integrity touched countless others, strengthening his community and his country immeasurably.

RECOGNIZING SISTERS HOSPITAL, ST. JOSEPH'S CAMPUS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the St. Joseph's Campus of Sisters

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Hospital as the recipient of the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Large Business of the Year Award.

One of Western New York's premiere medical institutions, Sisters Hospital, St. Joseph's Campus has been recognized by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association for achieving 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get with the Guidelines Stroke Performance Achievement Indicators. Cleverley and Associates, a prestigious consulting firm in Columbus, Ohio has recognized Sisters as a five-star hospital.

In addition, Sisters Hospital has received numerous awards for the care they provide to members of our community, demonstrating their great work towards improving patient outcomes and their quality of patient care.

A testament to Sisters Hospital's commitment to the community is their ongoing educational classes including Prepared Childbirth Classes, Better Breathers Club, Lifeskills Diabetes 4-part Series, the Savvy Shopper and Taking Performance to the Next Level. These invaluable classes provide information necessary to empower patients to make informed decisions about their health.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize Sisters Hospital, St. Joseph's Campus, a fundamental piece of Western New York's thriving medical community, as it receives this well-deserved award.

CONGRATULATING CHARLES A. REIMER ON HIS RETIREMENT AND TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS 33 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE AND 27 YEARS OF FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Charles A. Reimer, a resident of the 11th District, for his years of service to our country and to congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement following 33 years of military service and 27 years of federal civil service.

Mr. Reimer enlisted in our United States Army in August 1966 and served honorably for 3 years. In 1969, Mr. Reimer began his federal civil service, and, in 1970, he joined the Massachusetts National Guard. For the following 13 years, he served concurrently as a civilian employee in the Department of the Army as well as fulfilling his duties in the Guard.

During this period of concurrent service, Mr. Reimer became an expert in personnel management and focused on development of training programs and enhancement of training through facilities management. His innovative techniques were used to support the development of training programs for the National Park Service, U.S. Marshall Service, U.S. Marine Corps, and other federal and state agencies. In 1980, his expertise was invaluable in helping to implement a new initial entry training for the Army as well as more specialized training for inter-service personnel. Mr. Reimer's civil service evolved to more technical positions in developing strategic education programs aimed at preparing individuals

for senior leadership positions in the military as well as foreign area officers and strategists.

In June, 1983, Mr. Reimer was ordered into Federal Active Duty with the National Guard, where he served with distinction in personnel management and later in the areas of environmental management, diplomacy, and international affairs. His military career culminated with his service as Chief, Africa/Asia/Pacific Division, International Affairs Directorate for the National Guard Bureau. He was released from active duty in August 1999 and returned to federal civil service. His last assignment as the Strategic Planning Officer for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau was a culmination of all the years of service and experience supporting federal, state and local officials and organizations.

In recognition of his exemplary service in uniform and as a civilian federal employee, Mr. Reimer has received numerous decorations, awards, and medals including: Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Award (4), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Reserve Component Achievement Medal (7), Good Conduct Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2), Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Gold Hour Glass Device, Medal for the Defense of Freedom, Superior Civilian Service Medal (2), Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Army Superior Unit Award (2), Texas Medal of Merit, and Massachusetts Emergency Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Charles A. Reimer for his dedication and service to our country while serving in the National Guard and also as a dedicated public servant. I also thank his family for their support and sacrifices which have enabled Charles to contribute so greatly to our country. He has made immeasurable contributions to our nation, and I wish him a healthy, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING CHELSEA MONAYÉ MARTIN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Chelsea Monayé Martin, a dedicated student, who is making a difference in her community.

Ms. Chelsea Monayé Martin was born on July 31, 1995 to the parents of Barbara Murray and David Martin. She is 17 years old and currently in the 12th grade attending Crystal Springs High School. Her hobbies are playing soccer, reading, singing, and helping others.

Chelsea has been in Girl Scouts for 13 years and has completed over 500 hours of Community Service. Some of her community services consist of volunteering at a number of places such as: Sims House, Stew Pot, Mississippi Department of Human Services and Soup for Elderly and as a Library Assistant.

Chelsea's extracurricular activities include: Students Against Destructive Decisions, Mu Alpha Theta, Lady Tigers Soccer Team, My Sister's Keeper, JROTC and Girl Scouts.

Chelsea's many achievements include: United States National Student Council Award,

Girl Scout Silver Award, Girl Scout Gold Award, Highest Average Health Education, Principal's Honor Roll and Mississippi American Legion Auxiliary 2012 Magnolia Girls State.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a talented student, Ms. Chelsea Monayé Martin, for her zeal in actively making a difference in her community.

RECOGNIZING SAHBA ZAARE

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mesa Community College student Sahba Zaare, recipient of a 2013 Phi Theta Kappa Hites Transfer Scholarship, recognizing academic rigor, engagement, and leadership.

Sahba was chosen from over 2,300 applicants to receive this award, which will assist in his attainment of a baccalaureate degree from a senior degree-granting institution. He plans to transfer to Arizona State University, my alma mater, this coming year. Sahba, a Mathematics and Physics major at MCC, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the MCC Honors Program, and has been recognized as a Chancellor's Scholar, Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar, and American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges National Math Contest Winner.

Sahba is a recent immigrant to the United States and through his achievements confirms the promise of our educational system. Our community colleges provide invaluable vocational and technical training while also inspiring students such as Sahba to pursue big dreams and continue their education. It is thanks to institutions such as Mesa Community College and organizations such as the Hites Family Community College Scholarship Foundation and Phi Theta Kappa that such opportunities are available.

Given his accomplishment as well as the support provided by Mesa Community College and the collaborating scholarship foundations, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Sahba Zaare for being awarded a Phi Theta Kappa Hites Transfer Scholarship.

HONORING DR. ROY D. MOORE

HON. MELVIN L. WATT

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a constituent and distinguished veteran, Dr. Roy D. Moore.

For decades, Dr. Moore has dedicated his service to the citizens of Guilford County, the State of North Carolina and our country helping to enhance and protect their quality of life. Dr. Moore was instrumental in organizing and directing programs and initiatives that have added value to communities in Greensboro and across the state of North Carolina, including the first After-School Program for Children at the Hayes Taylor YMCA and the Summer Food Program for children administered by North Carolina A&T State University.

In the late 1980's Dr. Moore was instrumental in initiating dialogue that eventually created district based representation on Greensboro's City Council. This opened the door for minority representation on that governing body. He also served as the first Chairman of the 12th Congressional District of North Carolina which I am proud to represent.

Dr. Moore's accomplishments also include the 1988 Man of the Year Award at St. James Presbyterian Church (Greensboro, NC), the 1997 Community Service Award from the Greensboro Chapter of the NAACP, the 2001 Guilford County Democrat of the Year Award and being the 1st Chair of the African American Democratic Caucus in Guilford County.

Dr. Moore will be honored on September 14, 2013 in Greensboro, North Carolina at the Grand Opening of the new Disabled American Veterans headquarters. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing and congratulating Dr. Roy Moore for his September 14 honor and for his tireless work for many years to improve the lives of all people by strengthening the voices of those who are often ignored.

RECOGNIZING RUSSELL SALVATORE AS 2013 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Russell Salvatore as the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce recognizes him as their 2013 Citizen of the Year. Russ's professional and civic activities demonstrate his commitment to making a difference in the lives of individuals and a positive impact in his community.

Beginning as a young boy working for his father, Russ exemplifies the American ideals of hard work and determination. In 1967, Russ found a small hot dog stand for sale on Transit Road. He purchased the stand and served as the cook, dishwasher, and waiter himself. Eventually, he expanded the modest establishment into the landmark that is now Salvatore's Italian Gardens.

In 1995, a fire destroyed Salvatore's Italian Gardens. Although Russ's next project, a hotel, was already underway, Russ refocused the efforts of the construction crews from the hotel project to rebuilding the restaurant. Once the restaurant was back in business, he hosted a dinner for all the volunteer firemen who helped save his Salvatore's Italian Gardens. Work soon resumed at the Garden Place Hotel. The finished product is a beautiful one hundred and sixty-six room facility complete with a courtyard, fitness room, meeting rooms and twenty-five luxurious suites.

In 2006, Trocaire College met with Russ to discuss their plan to build a satellite campus in the suburbs to bolster a struggling hospitality program. Enthusiastic about the project, Russ partnered with Trocaire to open the Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality at Trocaire to the Sisters of Mercy in 2008.

Russ's great vision and drive led him to open another restaurant adjacent to Salvatore's Grand Hotel, Russell's Steaks, Chops, and More. The restaurant and hotel have received numerous honors and awards

since their opening. Russ is known for greeting his customers himself, providing a personal touch and top notch service. Russ's latest endeavor is his new cooking show "Come Dine With Me," which showcases local chefs and restaurants.

A dedicated philanthropist, one of Russ's proudest accomplishments was the creation of the "Patriots to Heroes Park." Located on Transit Road, the park is home to memorials of 9/11 and Flight 3407, tragedies that deeply affected Western New Yorkers. Russ is a generous supporter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Variety Club of Buffalo, Juvenile Diabetes of Buffalo, Heritage House, Women's and Children's Hospital, the Italian American Federation and the local school districts of Lancaster, Williamsville, Amherst and Clarence. Through the Russell J. Salvatore Foundation, he supports Kids Escaping Drugs, the Make A Wish Program, the Food Bank of Western New York and Meals on Wheels Organization. His annual "Ham-a-Lot" event fed almost 1,000 families this past Easter.

In 2012, Russ worked with Olmstead Conservatory to honor fallen heroes of the War of 1812 by funding the replacement of two marker willow trees in Delaware Park. During Erie County Medical Center's drive to improve patient relations, he donated new television sets for the entire hospital, which included an agreement that no patient should have to pay for television service again. This past year, he bought out the remaining tickets to a Buffalo Bills game to avoid a local blackout.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the great works of Russ Salvatore. His philanthropic spirit and dedication to Western New York is inimitable, and I congratulate him upon his receipt of the 2013 Citizen of the Year Award from the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

HONORING BRUSHY CREEK CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Brushy Creek Church.

Brother Edward Spencer was the founder of Brushy Creek Church. He was born in Virginia in 1819 and was brought to Mississippi by the slave traders at the age of 9. He professed religion in 1849 but remained in the white Baptist Church until 1869 as a free man.

Brother Spencer was appointed deacon by the white Baptist Church and decided that he needed to seek shelter for his own race. So with the assistance of others Brother Spencer succeeded in building a church approximately 30' x 40'. Not being satisfied with this he then organized a Sunday school and afterwards a public school and later he added another 10' making the church 30 ft. x 50 ft.

Brother Edward Spencer was the father of 14 children, often having to be away from his family traveling back and forth to church. In his old age, trying to return home about 7:00 p.m., he fell a victim to death on the roadside and was found on a Tuesday morning.

His funeral was attended by his wife, who was approximately 90 yrs. of age, 2 surviving

children, Pastor R. B. Jordan and the mothers of Brushy Creek Church. He was buried on land he had purchased more than 31 years before.

The church was repaired under the administration of Rev. R. B. Jordan of Jackson MS. He made the walls higher and made room for the pulpit and he added a deacon board to the church: Bro. L. A. Catching, Bro. V. L. Harper and Bro. Joe Murry.

The Brushy Creek Missionary Baptist Church has its roots in the Hopewell Baptist Church from which development of a separate church began in 1853, with the establishment of a separate room for the black members of the congregation.

In 1866 the black members of Hopewell Baptist Church voted to hold separate services every third Sunday and called Bro. Theophilus Green, "a white man" to serve as pastor. The final break with the Hopewell Baptist Church came in October 1869 when Brushy Creek Church was organized with 50 charter members.

In March of 1877, the Sunday School Roll had record that there were 26 members: Fifteen males and eleven women including the superintendent, Bro. Edward Spencer Sr., the Secretary, Bro. Calvin Spencer and the Treasurer, Bro. George Green.

The original church was actually at Brush Harbor where members met on land owned by Mr. Retinor who eventually deeded the land to the church. The first church structure was a log building. Then a lumber building finished in 1902 and a stone building rebuilt in 1951.

Rev. Hugh C. White of Raymond, MS, who became pastor in February 1930 in the year 1931 was paid as low as \$2.50 per month and as high as \$31.67 per month but received plenty of chickens, potatoes, greens, and eggs as a partial payment.

Rev. Hugh White along with the board elected a grievance committee and a grave section. In reading the records Rev. White took in many candidates for baptism and baptized them in the creek in back of Reno's Store. Rev. White gave his resignation in March 1934 and said his last sermon would be the 3rd Sunday in December 1934.

Rev. E. G. Roberson was motioned in April 1935 to serve as tentative pastor of Brushy Creek until the year of 1935 was out and on February 15, 1936 became the permanent pastor and the members voted to move the church to the top of the hill during the year of 1936.

The church records reflect Rev. S. M. Dukes of Jackson, MS was elected pastor of Brushy Creek Baptist Church in 1952. Under his leadership, Bro. Joe Haley was added to the deacon board.

He served as pastor for a number of years, after which the Rev. Nick C. Bradley of Jackson, MS. Under his leadership the church was repaired by building a bell tower approximately 30' high.

Following his administration, Rev. A. Banks of Jackson, MS was elected pastor of Brushy Creek and served one year. No records were found in regards to his accomplishments.

Records reflect that Rev. Willie H. Hines was the next pastor who was elected and served for 26 years, under his leadership many souls were bought to Christ and many accomplishments were made. The building addition added was 16' x 40'. Rev. Hines later moved to Hattiesburg where he also had a church.

Brushy Creek Baptist Church elected Rev. Hugh Lewis to serve as associate pastor for the remainder of the year. Rev. Lewis then became Brushy Creek's pastor and served for over 20 years. Under his leadership he added more deacons and made many accomplishments such as adding a fellowship hall, hot water heater, reroofing the church, installing an inside baptism pool, the concrete was poured in front of the fellowship hall, water fountains, carpet, P.A. System, new organ, new ladies room at the front entrance, new pulpit, floors partially replaced, new light fixtures, a bus was purchased and later sold for \$500.00.

Rev. Hugh Lewis gave his resignation in December 2003 and recommended that Rev. Gregory D. Brown be over the pulpit until it was decided who the next pastor would be.

Rev. Gregory D. Brown was nominated Pastor of Brushy Creek Church and preached his first sermon as pastor in December 21, 2003. Rev. Brown was installed as pastor February 8, 2004.

Rev. Brown previously served as Moderator of Brushy Creek New Hope Association. The membership has grown and he restored services back to full time with services starting at 9:00 a.m. for Sunday school, and morning worship starting at 10:30 every Sunday. Congressman Bennie Thompson Foundation donated two laptops to the church. The congregation both, children & adults, have benefited from the donation. Congressman THOMPSON's Foundation was also very instrumental in the donation of 5 acres of land that was acquired August 27, 2010 for church use only from Sis. Mary Jane Catchings, who was once a member of Brushy Creek Church.

Rev. Brown has served as our pastor for 9 years and still serves faithfully. On June 16, 2013 we will be celebrating 144 years of the church's anniversary and the funds raised will go toward our dream of building a new church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brushy Creek Church as they strive to be the foundation for others to find the joy of serving God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

CONGRATULATING BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 150 ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Boy Scouts of America Troop 150 on the occasion of its 85th anniversary. Boy Scouts of America is one of the largest youth organizations in the United States, with more than 4.5 million current members. Since its founding, nearly 84 million boys have participated in scouting.

Founded in 1928, Troop 150 was the first Boys Scout Troop in Fairfax County and remains one of the longest-standing active troops in the country. Since its founding, every meeting, including the very first which consisted of only 10 boys, has been held at the Annandale United Methodist Church. The relationship between the church and Troop 150 not only has endured; it has grown. The An-

andale United Methodist Men have been the predominate partner over the years. The first Scoutmaster, John Walter Mercer, is buried at the church cemetery, and a memorial fund bearing his name was created 20 years ago by John Webb, an original member of Troop 150. This fund sponsors annual trips designed to develop the leadership potential of deserving scouts.

Troop 150 plays a prominent role in the wider community as well. The Troop 150 Color Guard leads the annual Annandale Parade and also has performed this honor for Tee Ball on the South Lawn at the White House. Troop 150 has built community gardens, collected food for the needy, repaired trails, and participated in many other projects for the betterment of the community. More than 80 young men from this troop have earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Many of our country's greatest leaders have been scouts, and having been a scout, especially reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, is an achievement that is highly prized by our Military Service Academies.

Scouting develops leadership skills and ethics that foster future success in life. Troop 150 exemplifies the values and tenets of the Boy Scouts of America and supports the character development that encourages responsible citizenship and self-reliance. Members of this troop adhere to the Scout Law: "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent" and by the Scout Slogan: "Do a good turn daily."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 150 on the occasion of its 85th anniversary and in thanking its Scoutmaster, volunteers, family members, and community sponsors for their commitment to our children.

HONORING MR. KIRK W. JOHNSON FOR HIS COURAGEOUS WORK THROUGH THE LIST PROJECT TO RESETTLE IRAQI ALLIES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pride to rise today to recognize Mr. Kirk W. Johnson, the founder and executive director of the List Project to Resettle Iraqi Allies, for his continued efforts to safely resettle those Iraqis who have risked their lives working for the United States. I had the distinct honor of first meeting Kirk in 2008, when I began working with him and his organization on legislative remedies to this crisis. He has since been featured in numerous interviews and documentaries on the subject, testified on two occasions before members of the House and Senate on the consequences of our withdrawal from Iraq, and just published his first book. Kirk is truly an amazing individual who has selflessly dedicated himself to helping Iraqis who have worked for the United States in Iraq—and whose lives have been placed in grave danger for that service.

Kirk was born and raised in West Chicago, Illinois. In 2002, he earned a bachelor's degree with general and departmental honors in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. During that

time, he received a Foreign Language Acquisition Grant to study the Syrian colloquial dialect of Arabic in Damascus, followed by fellowships from the American Academy in Berlin, Yaddo, MacDowell, and the Wurlitzer Foundation. Finally, prior to his work in Iraq, he conducted research on political Islamism as a Fulbright Scholar in Egypt.

In 2005, Kirk served in Iraq with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), first in Baghdad and then in Fallujah, where he was the Agency's first coordinator for reconstruction in the war-torn city. A letter from an Iraqi colleague in 2006, which said, "People are trying to kill me and I need your help," got him involved in helping America's endangered Iraqi allies. After Kirk successfully assisted his colleague, many other pleas for help followed, which led Kirk to found the List Project. The organization has grown to become the largest single pro bono initiative ever undertaken on behalf of refugees.

His recently published book, "To Be a Friend is Fatal: A Story from the Aftermath of America at War," tells the story of the List Project's seven-year struggle to protect thousands of Iraqi allies. It centers on the lives of four Iraqis who stepped forward to help the United States, following them as they flee from Iraq and come up against the challenging bureaucracy of the U.S. refugee resettlement program.

To date, Kirk's writing on U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East and towards Iraqi allies who approached him in dire need of help has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Foreign Policy*. In addition, he has appeared on *60 Minutes*, *The Today Show*, and *World News Tonight*. A leading public advocate for Iraqis who assisted the U.S. Government, Kirk's efforts have been recognized by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he will be continuing his studies next year.

Mr. Speaker, Kirk has so far helped nearly 1,500 Iraqis, which makes him a true American hero in my eyes. He has given a voice to those individuals who were there for us when we needed their help, but were left to struggle through the system when they needed ours. Kirk has faced significant challenges and proven himself to be a leader whose service to this nation has only just begun.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share in the great sadness of my colleagues as we mourn the passing of former Florida Congressman E. Clay Shaw, Jr., who passed away on September 10, 2013.

I would like to first express my condolences to Clay's beloved wife of 53 years, Emilie; his children Emilie "Mimi" Shaw Carter (Jim), Jennifer Shaw Wilder (Greg), E. Clay Shaw III (Heather) and John Charles "J.C." Shaw (Angela) and his 15 grandchildren. We extend our deepest sympathies to the family during this

difficult time and hope that some solace may be found in the appreciation of a grateful nation for their husband, father and grandfather's service and sacrifice.

I have had the privilege and honor of knowing Clay for over four decades. Devout in his commitment to public service and with faith in God and country, Clay heeded the call to public office in the 1960s when he first served as the assistant city attorney for Fort Lauderdale. He would later serve as chief city prosecutor, associate municipal judge, city commissioner, vice mayor and mayor for his city which he held so dear.

In 1980, Clay was elected to the U.S. Congress to represent the 15th District of Florida. His service spanned more than a quarter of a century, and I firmly believe that future generations and history will remember our colleague as a dedicated public servant who conducted himself with a tremendous sense of higher purpose and compassion for those he represented.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Clay championed vital reforms to welfare, Social Security and other government programs to ensure every American had the opportunity to succeed. He worked tirelessly to preserve the Florida Everglades, a great national treasure, for future generations.

A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, he truly made an indelible mark on his family, community and our country. E. Clay Shaw, Jr., stood for integrity, compassion and public service and through that principled dedication, he leaves a proud and distinguished legacy. I join my Florida colleagues and all Members of Congress in expressing our sympathy to the Shaw Family and our appreciation for sharing their loved one with us over these past years in Congress.

HONORING SOLENBERGER'S TRUE VALUE HARDWARE STORE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winchester, Virginia's oldest hardware store, Jno. S. Solenberger True Value Hardware. Solenberger's Hardware is celebrating its 125th anniversary this week.

Solenberger's was founded by John Solenberger and Daniel Stouffer in 1888 and can be found today at 832 Berryville Ave., where it sells a large variety of products at competitive prices.

The store employs over 30 people from the Winchester community and has been proudly run by the Solenberger family since its inception, now spanning five generations. Currently, nine of John Solenberger's descendants work for the store and one, Cyndi Thwaite, still serves as president.

Solenberger's has been a constant for the community through the ups and downs of the last century and has proven itself a positive force for Winchester and its residents. I wish the Solenberger family the best of luck in continuing the family tradition.

I submit the following article from the Winchester Star on Solenberger's Hardware's unique place within the community.

[From the Winchester Star, Sept. 7, 2013]

(By Sally Voth)

HARDWARE STORE IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

WINCHESTER.—The city's oldest hardware store is throwing itself a party today.

Solenberger's Hardware (Jno. S. Solenberger & Co.) is marking its 125th anniversary this week, capping it with a car show today from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event will also feature a bounce house, bungee run, food vendors and door prizes, said Patti Solenberger, director of marketing and merchandising.

Her husband John Solenberger is the great-grandson of the hardware store's founder, John S. Solenberger.

The store got its start in 1888 as Solenberger & Stouffer, at Baker and Cameron streets. Solenberger's cousin Daniel Stouffer was the co-founder.

After the original store was destroyed by a fire in 1908, a new one was opened at 142 N. Loudoun St., dropping Stouffer from the name, Patti Solenberger said.

The business would stay in that three-story building for the next 85 years.

In 1993, Solenberger's Hardware bought its current store at 832 Berryville Ave. The 50,000-square-foot building had formerly been a Heck's and an L.A. Joe's, company Vice President John Solenberger said. His father John T. Solenberger died just before the store moved.

About 40,000 square feet of the space is used for the sale of items ranging from tools to plumbing and electrical supplies, lawn and gardening equipment, kitchenware, fans, soaps, hats, candles, grills and even toys.

"We have to satisfy everybody," Patti Solenberger said.

Today, nine of John S. Solenberger's descendants work in the store. Great-granddaughter Cyndi Thwaite is the store's president.

"We've got a fifth generation now," John Solenberger said.

But he didn't grow up assuming that he would one day help to run the family business.

"I wanted to be a veterinarian when I was a kid," John Solenberger said. "The more I worked [here], the more I enjoyed working with the people. Just the fact it's a family business and being able to keep something going that's been there generations."

While Solenberger's has had industrial locations selling transportation products and bearings, it now handles those products from the back of the store, John Solenberger said.

Along with family members, about 30 other people are employed at the store.

While working with relatives is mostly good, it has its drawbacks, John Solenberger said. "You never stop talking about it," he said of hardware-store related conversations.

"I love working with him because he's a great guy," said Patti Solenberger, who has worked at the store since 1993. "I respect him so much. It's been a great 20 years. We all for the most part get along."

Thwaite has been company president for 20 years, although she said she and her younger brother are more like co-presidents.

"We're very, very proud," she said. "It's something that I guess when we were kids we never thought about. We never thought about being here for 125 years."

Like her brother, going into the family business wasn't part of Thwaite's original plan either. She changed her mind after doing some student-teaching.

"My dad and I worked very well together," Thwaite said.

The siblings have seen some changes in the hardware store business over the decades.

"Back 30 years ago, we were one of the only ones in town, and people had more of an

allegiance," Thwaite said. "And you don't quite see that as much now as you did back then. Same with employees. We've been very fortunate that we have such long-term employees."

In fact, two employees—Jack Shiley and Sam Riley—have more than 55 years each under their tool belts at Solenberger's.

While the arrival of Lowe's and The Home Depot in Winchester concerned them at first, the Solenbergers said their business hasn't really been hurt by either.

"I think people automatically assume we would have an adversarial relationship ..., but they're so good to us, and we're good to them," Patti Solenberger said.

Each carries items unavailable at the other, she said.

"I don't think there's a day go by we don't have somebody coming from Lowe's, or we send somebody," John Solenberger said.

The family is working on an "antiquities corner" at the store to display some of its oldest items. These include a gold-leaf store sign, an oak desk, a carriage lantern, a nail bucket, a key machine, a radio and sled runners.

"These are just things we found when we cleaned the store out downtown," Patti Solenberger said.

When Sam Riley, 74, started working at Solenberger's 55 years ago, customers had accounts, and would be billed. Sales of more than \$100 had to be approved by Solenberger.

Riley has been a part-time employee for a few years, but plans to continue work if he remains healthy.

"I never got out of bed hating to to work for 50-some years," he said. "There was a lot of nice people. The Solenbergers are very nice people to work for. I'm on the fourth generation [of] Solenbergers. I worked under the second generation of Solenbergers, and that was Hugh and Herbert."

"You've got to enjoy your work. I've enjoyed it for 55 years. It's been a good ride."

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTH- DAY OF ROSEMARIE DIETSCHLER

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Rosemarie Dietschler as she prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday on September 18th, 2013.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Rosemarie has spent most of her life in Buffalo and Tonawanda.

On January 25th, 1941, she married the love of her life, her husband Edwin. Rosemarie and Edwin shared many adventures. During their courtship, the two enjoyed traveling to West Valley in Edwin's car, yet the only way up the Springville breakers was to physically push the car from behind.

A hard worker, Rosemarie held a variety of jobs during her career. In addition to her work as a secretary, she worked at Kobackers, the iconic Mom and Pop grocery store on North Main Street in Brewster, New York, as well as at Hens and Kelly, the chain of department stores based right in Buffalo.

Rosemarie's generosity is unparalleled. A devoted parent, grandmother, and great-grandmother, her hobbies include crocheting baby sweaters and blankets. She made many special outfits for the children in her life, and

was involved in the Kenmore Mercy Sewing Guild for many years.

Rosemarie is admirably dedicated to her family. She and her husband have three children, Dianne Burns, Donna Veiga, and Denise Locsei. She is close with her grandchildren and their spouses, Daniel and Lisa Burns, Anthony and Shannon Haeick, Justin and Bethany Locsei, Megan Burns Moran, and Morgan Locsei. Rosemarie has the honor of being a great-grandmother, and loves her great-grandchildren, Maggie Burns, Brian Burns, and Evan Haeick, dearly. Homemaking has consistently been at the center of Rosemarie's life, as evidenced by the love and support she displays for all of her family as well as her close friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to celebrate Rosemarie Dietschler's 100th birthday, her generous spirit, and her boundless love for her family and friends. Thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the legacy of this outstanding woman. I wish Rosemarie and her family all the best for their many years to come.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER RESTON ARTS CENTER ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and to recognize the contributions this local institution has made to the cultural life of throughout Northern Virginia.

Founded in 1974 by artists and friends of the arts as a source of cultural enrichment for what was then the "new town" of Reston, GRACE has enriched community life by promoting involvement and excellence in contemporary visual arts. GRACE initially operated out of the landmark Heron House on Lake Anne and offered classes in sculpture, painting, and weaving for children and adults. In 1976, GRACE began training volunteer "docents" to lead interactive discussions of art history in elementary schools. This signature program now reaches more than 20,000 students in 42 schools across the region.

From its current location in Reston Town Center, GRACE provides a year-round program of contemporary visual art exhibitions, education programs for all ages, and special events. In recent years, GRACE has introduced new traditions such as the seasonal "Focus" exhibition series, and has engaged the community with events such as free gallery receptions, holiday wine tastings, and string quartet performances. The annual Northern Virginia Arts Festival, operated by GRACE, is widely recognized as a signature event that features more than 200 juried, national artists and draws tens of thousands of attendees/buyers annually. Such activities greatly enhance both the cultural life and local economy of Reston and Fairfax County.

Looking forward, GRACE intends to fill the need for a more dynamic artistic and cultural presence brought about by Reston Town Center's emergence as an international business

destination and regional attraction. Under the leadership of Executive Director Damian Sinclair, GRACE recently announced its "40 Forward" campaign to develop a more robust Fine Arts Festival, enhance its gallery exhibitions, extend its education program online, and partner with other institutions to promote a stronger commitment to public and performance art.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating GRACE on its 40th anniversary and thanking its staff, volunteers, and supporters for their ongoing contributions to the quality of life in Northern Virginia.

HONORING PRATT MEMORIAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Pratt Memorial United Methodist Church.

Pratt Memorial United Methodist Church was founded as a Mission Charge and was organized under the ministry of Reverend Henry Henderson on July 9, 1897. It was housed in a small school building and was called the West Jackson Methodist Episcopal Church. The Reverend J. D. Brooks, who succeeded Reverend Henderson in 1898, built the first parsonage during his two years as a pastor.

An effort to build the first church was made by Reverend E. P. Chatman. Although his plan was not completed, he did succeed in the construction to the extent that services could be held. Reverend Chatman served two years and was succeeded by Reverend I. L. Pratt. Unfortunately both the church and the parsonage burned. But by faith and sacrifice, the pastor and the faithful members built the first sanctuary, naming it in honor of Reverend Pratt. He served one year and was followed by Reverend Hiram Mae who was pastor for only six months.

Following Reverend Mae, the Conference sent Reverend W. L. Marshall to shepherd the congregation. He succeeded in building the second parsonage but resigned after spending a year and a half at Pratt's seventh pastor, Reverend W. A. Oates, came from Yazoo City, Mississippi and spent two and a half fruitful years paying off many of the church's debts while also ministering to the needs of his people. The Reverends Garrett Tate, Simpson Joshua, Henry Woods, M. T. J. Howard and N. Ross, all followed in succession as pastors of Pratt. Each served one year and each contributed much to the spiritual growth of the loyal and faithful membership.

Reverend Prentiss Taylor, the fourteenth pastor, stimulated growth and hope. Reverend Taylor's successor, Reverend E. A. J. Isabel, helped make his dream a reality when he ushered in a new day for membership and under Reverend Isabel, Pratt was taken off the circuit and became a stationed charge. Later a beautiful brick veneer edifice was built and the name was changed from Pratt's Chapel to Pratt Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church.

Reverend Isabel broke all previous records of service to the church with a tenure that spanned ten years. He was affectionately called the "great builder" and was succeeded

by Reverend A. B. Keeling. His business acumen as well as his abilities as a pastor helped him meet the demands of the church. Reverend Keeling took a great interest in the youth of the church, providing opportunities for their talents, to develop leadership qualities and to gain experience through attendance at youth meetings and conferences. Through his work developing young church members, Pratt took its place among the top churches in the conference, attracting area-wide attention in both ministerial and lay circles. Reverend J. C. Hibbler continued the work among the youth and both Reverend Hibbler and his successor, Reverend S. G. Roberts, served three years respectively. Each kept the faith and did much to improve the church grounds and physical structure.

Reverend L. E. Johnson was sent to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Reverend Roberts. A powerful minister and good fundraiser, Reverend Johnson reduced the church debt during his four-year tenure. The youth activities were expanded, the membership grew rapidly and other areas of the church were improved. Reverend Johnson was elevated to District Superintendent of the Jackson District at the end of his tenure. Through the inspiration of Reverend W. H. Blackman, Reverend Johnson's successor, there was an increase in membership. The three-year stay of Reverend Blackman was due to the call of the Conference for him to become the Executive Secretary of Christian Education of the Mississippi Conference. He was succeeded by Reverend C. P. Payne.

Under Reverend Payne's guidance, the balance of the church's indebtedness was paid off and the mortgage was burned on October 1, 1944. Dr. Clovis Chappell, pastor of Gallo-way Memorial Methodist Church of Jackson, delivered the dedication sermon. Pratt became the third-ranked among the top churches in the Mississippi Conference attracting area-wide attention.

Next was Reverend Frank P. Leonard. In spite of a bright outlook for the congregation and good leadership of its pastor, the physical structure collapsed in March, 1953, but the pastor and congregation rebuilt and the new church opening was held March 14, 1954. The beautiful edifice, which now stands, is a tribute to Reverend Leonard and his congregation. The \$43,000 debt was reduced to \$23,000 by the time the building was completed and Reverend Leonard became District Superintendent the following year.

In 1956, Reverend M. T. J. Howard, Jr. was assigned to Pratt. The parsonage was rebuilt and completely furnished.

Reverend G. W. Williams succeeded Reverend Howard in 1958.

Reverend A. L. Holland succeeded Reverend Williams but died at the helm after only six months of service. Reverend C. P. Payne, the District Superintendent, assisted in completing the year's work. In 1963 Reverend Allen Johnson was sent to Pratt. Like his father, Reverend L. E. Johnson, Reverend Johnson was a good fundraiser as well as an organizer. An inspirational choir, a youth choir and a children's choir were all organized. Funds were raised to pay off the church and parsonage indebtedness. Reverend Johnson also became distinguished as a fearless and courageous leader in the Civil Rights Movement of the sixties, which broke down racial barriers.

When Reverend Sydney L. Webb appeared on the scene in 1967, the congregation concluded that Pratt must rise to the new challenge in the age of space. As a first step, they envisioned a much needed renovation and building program. With conference and local financial obligations completed for the conference year, the congregation decided to launch a 66th Anniversary program to celebrate as well as to raise funds for the building program. The 66th Anniversary was held June 2, 1968. In June 1969, Reverend Webb was appointed by the Conference to head the Jackson District.

Reverend C. E. Applebeny advanced plans initiated by Reverend Webb, the first pastor to serve the church after it became known as Pratt Memorial United Methodist Church. This was due to the union of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Reverend Appleberry served two faithful years.

Reverend C. P. Payne, who became the only pastor to serve Pratt Memorial on more than one occasion, succeeded Reverend Appleberry. After a two-year period, Reverend Coleman Turner succeeded Reverend Payne. Under Reverend Turner's supervision, the church took on a new life, the choir took on a new look, and the young people became more active in all phases of church life. The financial affairs of the church were ordered and funds were raised to begin the second phase of the building program. The repair of the church steeple was also made. The United Methodist Women were reorganized under Reverend Turner's administration and the women of the church began serving as officers, a choice not open to them before.

Following Reverend Turner's retirement after 11 years of service, the 1984 June Annual Conference appointed Reverend Noah Lee Moore to Pratt. As he took over the reins, Reverend Moore faced an uncertain church renovation and remodeling program, which had come to a halt. Being a dynamic young minister with deep spiritual convictions, he provided the leadership for the hour. In less than a year and a half, the church parsonage was renovated, upgraded and painted, followed by the remodeling and renovation of the entire church. During the same time span, the United Methodist Men's organization was revived and revitalized. The youth and children of the church became organized and their activities added much to the life of the church. But perhaps the most historical accomplishment during this period was the resolving of the divisible issue of two units of United Methodist Women in the church. One all-inclusive unit was formed and developed in keeping with the laws of the United Methodist Church. With the anticipated strengthening of all areas of the church so as to implement the ministry it espouses, the securing of a loan from the general church to take over the mortgage incurred for the building program was implemented under the leadership banner of Reverend Moore.

Reverend Deborah Mingo Palmer, Pratt Memorial's first female pastor, succeeded Reverend Noah Moore in June 1993. Her ability to inspire and teach the word of God through illustrative sermons sparked increases in Sunday School and worship services' attendance. Her talent for planning and presenting special programs and services made the worship experience unique, colorful and as always—spir-

itually uplifting. The high energy and innovative ideas of the pastor motivated the membership to revitalize ministries that already had great potential, such as communication, children, youth and young adult ministries. Wonderful Wednesday, Sensational Saturday, The Singles, Orientation Sunday School Class were new ones for Pratt.

Another first for Pratt Memorial United Methodist Church was the addition of three Associate Pastors to the personnel roster; Reverend Glenda Funchess, Reverend Carl Palmer, Jr. (the pastor's spouse) and Reverend Eliza Forbes. The Associate Ministers were involved in worship services and other junctions to give ministerial support for the pastor.

In Reverend Palmer's fourth year span of leadership, the church parsonage was renovated to accommodate a three-room office and small group meeting space. The church steeple was repaired, two additional lots were purchased and the parking lot was paved and lined.

Reverend John L. Cornelius was appointed the thirty-third pastor at the June 1997 and the church purchased the home next to the church parsonage. This was the beginning of the Pratt Memorial UMC Resource Center for computer training and after school tutorial. During Reverend Cornelius' term, the Administrative Council also approved the purchase of a computer and software to keep finances electronically.

Rev. Selber M. McShepard was appointed the thirty-fourth pastor of Pratt at the June 2005. With a strong spirit of ministry Pratt connected with eight other West Jackson Churches in The Cluster. The Cluster churches worked on outreach ministry in the district, as well as exchanging pastors one Sunday out of the year. Rev. McShepard encouraged the youth of the church to become active through attendance, in summer camps and connectional ministry meetings. She also worked with the Building and Redevelopment Committee of the church toward the planning of Pratt's first Family Life Center.

Rev. Brenda McCaskill was appointed the thirty-fifth pastor of Pratt at the June 2010 Mississippi Conference. She immediately began to work toward improving leadership in the church by conducting monthly Leadership Training Classes. She focused on ministering to young adults in the church and community by helping to establish a Sunday School class and other social activities. Rev. McCaskill was instrumental in establishing a toll free Prayer Line Monday through Friday to pray for their concerns. Her Outreach Ministry included visiting local prisons and programs like the "Gospel and Youth Explosion" held in the community.

In June of 2013, Rev. DeMario F. Benson, Sr. was appointed the thirty-six pastor of Pratt. He has also focused on improving leadership at Pratt and youth and young adult involvement within the church. He has also been instrumental in initiating a Youth Ministry, Singles Ministry, and Marriage Ministry while at Pratt. We trust that under his leadership, we can keep the faith and adhere to those same principles, which started Pratt on this journey one hundred sixteen years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Pratt Memorial United Methodist Church as they strive to be the guide for others to find the joy of serving God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

EASTLAKE LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. DAVID. G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary merit of the Eastlake Little League All-Star Softball Team from Sammamish, WA, today, September 12, 2013.

The Eastlake Little League All-Star Softball Team won the state championship before advancing to the West Regional Tournament in San Bernardino, California. At the West Regional Tournament they had an electrifying run defeating Alaska 11–0, Montana 9–8, and Idaho 11–1, before falling to Oregon 4–2 and then to California 4–1 in the regional semifinals.

Throughout the state and regional tournaments, they demonstrated great cohesion and teamwork. Congratulations to the Eastlake Little League All-Star Softball Team for an outstanding tournament; they are deserving of very special recognition. The players and coaches who made this excellent season possible are listed below.

Players: Georgia Robinson, Mackenzie Kurtz, Sophia Robinson, Belle deOliveira, Kailey Mohamed, Natalie Guinasso, Josie Charles, Morgan Olynk, Courtney Zaidi, Regan Hines, Ryan Kurtz, Peyton Wright, Hannah Butterklee, and Kaitlyn Recob

Coaches: Don Hines, Steve Pollis, Stevev Olynk

ON THE OCCASION OF SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATIONS OF CREDIT UNION ONE

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Credit Union ONE as its employees, executives, members and the communities it serves celebrate seventy-five years of operations. Over its seven-and-a-half decades of business, Credit Union ONE has remained true to its roots in the Southeast Michigan community.

Credit Unions are important local financial institutions that know their neighbors and use their unique understanding to serve their communities with the tools that are necessary to grow and prosper. Credit Union ONE was founded in 1938 when fifteen neighbors in Ferndale, Michigan came together to create the Ferndale Co-Op Credit Union, and is a shining example of the strong connection credit unions have to the communities they serve. These concerned neighbors worked together with the shared goal of helping the neighborhoods of Ferndale thrive. With its strong roots in the Greater Detroit region, Credit Union ONE has grown to be one top ten credit unions in Michigan with over 106,000 members—a long way from its humble start in the basement of church in Ferndale. Over the years, Credit Union ONE has substantially expanded the services it offers to its members from its nineteen branches across Michigan, rising to meet their needs

with a full range of financial tools to assist members with personal financial planning, home ownership, retirement and small business support services.

The key to the success of Credit Union ONE has been its ongoing commitment as an active stakeholder in the well-being of its members and communities across Michigan. As part of its mission Credit Union ONE has partnered with local health care service organizations, including the nationally renowned Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute of Michigan, to support cancer care and research. Additionally, Credit Union ONE has hosted numerous free fraud/identity theft seminars and financially literacy sessions, as well as workshops for first-time homeowners and financial planning, for both its members and the broader community. As a further benefit to its members, Credit Union ONE offers a scholarship to college-bound high school graduates of their families which can substantially assist a student with the cost of higher education. Furthermore, as part of its dedication to the vitality of Michigan, Credit Union ONE was an official 2010 Census Partner, educating the public on the importance of responding to the Census to maximize the resources available to its community partners across the state.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Credit Union ONE for seventy-five years of successful operations across Michigan. Throughout its history, Credit Union ONE has been more than just a local member-based financial institution; it has been an important strategic partner for residents, small businesses, and local governments across Michigan that has worked with them to improve their quality-of-life. The success of Credit Union ONE is a success for Michigan, especially the Greater Detroit region where it is based, and I wish its members, employees, and its executive leadership many years of future success.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER OF BUFFALO DURING NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize National Health Center Week and the Community Health Center of Buffalo.

National Health Center Week was started by the National Association of Community Health Centers nearly 30 years ago to raise awareness about the noble mission and incredible accomplishments of America's Community Health Centers. Health Centers strive to provide local solutions for affordable and accessible health care. In recognition of their mission, the theme of this year's National Health Center Week is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: Transforming Health Care in Our Local Communities".

Community Health Centers provide their services to all who need it, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status. For over 45 years, these Health Centers have been ranked among the highest quality and cost effective care providers in the nation. Today, America's Health Centers serve over 22 million people at

more than 8,200 delivery sites spread far and wide across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories.

Established in 1999, the Community Health Center of Buffalo has been one of the leading health care providers in our region, providing a safety net to the uninsured and under insured. As a provider of comprehensive primary care services in medicine and dentistry, their services are essential to ensure Western New Yorkers receive quality health care.

Their mission is to provide quality, culturally sensitive, preventive and primary healthcare to the underserved of our community through state of the art clinical and business practices, while promoting a teaching environment and empowering patients in order to reduce health disparities.

In addition to their main location, the Community Health Center has a satellite location in Niagara Falls, which is the first Federally Qualified Community Health Center in Niagara Falls. The center offers a number of medical care services for the entire family.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the honorable mission of our nation's Community Health Centers, and the inspiring work they do to promote public health here in Western New York.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF GERALDINE "GERRY" ESTEP SHERWOOD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate and celebrate the life of one of Fairfax City's most, prominent citizens, Mrs. Geraldine 'Gerry' Estep Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood passed away on August 5, 2013 leaving a legacy that will benefit Fairfax City and the Northern Virginia community for generations to come.

Mrs. Sherwood's passion for the musical arts emerged at an early age. When she was just a small child, she was asked if she would like a large, toy piano for a present; she responded by saying that she would "wait for the real thing." The wait was not to be very long, she began piano lessons at age 6 and continued her education through college where she majored in music.

Mrs. Sherwood's involvement in Fairfax City began in 1947 when she accepted a position as a teacher at Fairfax High School. At Fairfax High School, she initiated a choral music program and shepherded its growth for seven years. At that time, Fairfax was a 'village' of about 1,000 residents. The area was surrounded by farmland described by Mrs. Sherwood as "a wasteland as far as music was concerned."

Also in 1947, Mrs. Sherwood met a young veteran, Mr. Stacy Sherwood, who had served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. They married in 1950 and together became a force in Fairfax City. Mr. Sherwood served on the town and city councils, and was instrumental in having Fairfax City identified as the location of what is now George Mason University. While Mr. Sherwood continued his civic activities, Mrs. Sherwood dedicated herself to promotion of the arts in Fairfax City.

Following public school teaching, Mrs. Sherwood provided private lessons in piano and voice and directed junior and senior choirs at a local church which she continued through 2010. She served with the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, the Fairfax Music Guild and the Fairfax Choral Society, and was a founding member of the Arts Council of Fairfax County. Mrs. Sherwood was named the Honorary Chair for the 2010 Spotlight on the Arts Festival.

In 2007, Mrs. Sherwood offered to donate \$5 million for the construction and operation of a community center in the heart of Fairfax City. Although a centrally located community center had been contemplated since the 1960's, it was not until her generous offer that the dream could become a reality. Named in honor of her husband who passed away in 2002, The Stacy C. Sherwood Center opened its doors in February, 2011.

The Stacy C. Sherwood Center was immediately recognized as a superior, state-of-the-art facility, earning the prestigious "Best New Facility Award" from the Virginia Recreation and Parks Society in 2012. Containing over 14,000 square feet, the Center caters to a wide range of arts, activities and programs. This center is also used as a venue for weddings, private business and social activities, in fact the Center contains the largest performance and banquet space in the City of Fairfax. This Center not only provides a facility to expand and promote the arts, it enhances the identity of the region and is a gift to the community that will live on.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and contributions of Mrs. Geraldine "Gerry" Estep Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood will be missed, but will always be remembered as the driving force that changed Fairfax City from a "wasteland as far as the arts were concerned" into a regional treasure. I, and the constituents of the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, owe Mrs. Sherwood a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid.

HONORING CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Central United Methodist Church Jackson, Mississippi. Central United Methodist Church is a church full of history and heritage spanning almost 150 years.

When the Mississippi Mission Conference convened at Wesley Chapel in New Orleans from December 19-25, 1865, it was composed, for the most part, of Negroes, who sought affiliation with the "Old Church." Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas combined the Mission Conference. The Jackson Mission grew out of the Conference in 1866. Miles Proctor shepherded the fledgling mission until later in the year when Moses Adams and Thomas Anderson were appointed the pastors. At the time of its beginning, the Jackson Mission is said to have been located in the area of Millsaps College.

Over the next ten years, the mission grew. In 1876, it established a church at the corner

of Grayson, now Lamar and Fortification Streets.

Several years later, in January 1890, the Annual Conference adopted a resolution that granted the Board of Church Extensions permission to use eighteen hundred dollars realized from the sale of land to buy another lot and to build a new church. Augustus M. Trotter, pastor of the church, presented the resolution.

On June 25, 1890, December Sharp sold the land on which the church now stands to the Board of Trustees, headed by William Young. On May 16, 1891, a second deed was acquired for land brought from M.F. Chiles for seventy-five dollars. In 1892, the first building to house Central Methodist Episcopal was completed. The structure was razed in March 1965, and a new edifice was consecrated in June 1966.

Throughout the years, Central has undergone a number of changes. In 1921, the Mississippi Annual Conference appointed the first Bishop of African descent, Robert E. Jones. That year, Central hosted the first Annual Conference over which Bishop Jones presided in the state.

At the result of two mergers, the church has changed names twice. In 1939, church became Central Methodist, in the Central Jurisdiction. In 1968, after the union of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren, church became Century of Methodism in Jackson. In 1997, Central acquired the Marion-Jones Branch of the YWCA to use as its Family Life Center. Today it houses Central's Scouting Ministry, Food and Clothing Distribution and Summer Enrichment Programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Central United Methodist Church.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, September is National Preparedness Month, a time when Americans are reminded of the importance of being prepared for disasters and emergencies.

After Hurricanes Irene and Sandy, the damaging flooding of the Delaware, and devastating fires that damaged residential and commercial properties, my constituents are no strangers to disasters. Events like these have shown us that being ready for an emergency is essential; there is no substitute for preparedness.

This year's National Preparedness Month campaign focuses on the theme: You Can Be the Hero.

In coordination with FEMA and the American Red Cross, I urge all citizens to take concrete action toward preparing for emergencies and disasters. It takes a team effort to ensure that we are ready for any disaster.

I encourage individuals, families, organizations, and businesses across America to make an emergency plan, put together an emergency supply kit, and join in local efforts to become a community preparedness partner. Your efforts today may save a life tomorrow.

HONORING ISMAEL "TONY"
TORRES

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a model public servant who dedicated his life to the betterment of the Williamsburg community in Brooklyn, New York. Ismael "Tony" Torres was born in Carolinas, Puerto Rico on November 29, 1933, and arrived in New York City in 1946.

Mr. Torres is an extraordinary man who is proud of his heritage and has dedicated his life's work to advancing the cause of equal rights, community empowerment and civil rights for Puerto Ricans in Williamsburg. In 1952, he was arrested for organizing a rally against wage theft for six Puerto Rican factory workers in Brooklyn. This was the beginning of a long and storied activist career.

Mr. Torres served in the U.S. Armed Forces from 1954 to 1956 in the ARMY 7th Steps To Hell, Company A unit. Upon returning home, he continued the fight for justice and fairness and against discrimination.

In 1958 he coordinated the first Puerto Rican parade along Graham Avenue. Thanks to his advocacy and work with the former Councilmember, Graham Avenue today is known as Avenida Puerto Rico.

In the 1970's he founded the Williamsburg Federation of Tenants for Better Housing. Comprised of local residents and leaders. This organization led to the development of two massive affordable housing projects in the 1970's and 80's—Caribe Village and Borinquen Plaza Housing Development. In 1977, he led and won the fight to create one of the oldest senior centers in Williamsburg—the Borinquen Senior Center. In addition, he served as the president of the Tenants Association where he led the fight to improve the quality of life for public housing residents.

Mr. Torres was also very active in the fight for affordable and quality healthcare in Williamsburg and Greenpoint. Along with health advocates, he organized to improve services for the underserved at Greenpoint Hospital. The coalition initiated by Mr. Torres and other Latino leaders led to the closure of that facility and its replacement with an updated, state-of-the-art health center known today as Woodhull Medical Center.

Today, Mr. Torres continues to be a powerful advocate because people trust him. He is a community legend and champion for those who too often lack a voice. Once again, I pay tribute to Mr. Ismael "Tony" Torres, a Puerto Rican trailblazer for his people and a renaissance man who made a positive impact in housing, civil and workers' rights and local politics. Those of us who have the opportunity to observe and experience his example consider ourselves fortunate.

TRIBUTE TO THE CORONA ROAD RACE ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Corona

Road Race. On September 14, 2013, the race will celebrate its centennial. The Corona Road Race has a rich and colorful past, which has contributed to the diversity and history of our county and to auto racing at-large.

Designed by civil engineer H. Clay Kellogg, Grand Boulevard, the road set as the centerpiece in the city of Corona, provided the perfect circular shape and venue for the first Corona Road Race. Spanning three miles, the track was set up for a variety of races including the 102 mile "Light Car Race," the 251 mile "Heavy Car Race," and the 301 mile "Free-For-All Race." With the right setting and prizes totaling over \$10,000, racing legends including Earl Cooper, Teddy Tetzlaff, Barney Oldfield, Eddie Rickenbacker, and Bob Burman flocked to Corona for a chance to make history. On September 9, 1913, the first ever Corona Road Race was held, hosting thousands of fans and drivers from throughout the world.

With stiff competition and an impressive lineup, the "Free for All" proved the most exciting race, with \$5,000 up for grabs, and a chance at an additional \$1,000 should the winner break the world record. Amidst cheering fans, Earl Cooper sped to victory and claimed the title as first winner of the Corona Road Race.

Due to the success of the 1913 Road Race, organizers quickly began planning for a second race to take place the following year. Bigger than ever, the Race returned on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1914. With new safety measures, an even bigger pot of \$12,000, and a five foot fence, which gave the track its distinguishable look, the Corona Road Race took new form. News and wire services covered the day from start to finish, broadcasting to cities all over the United States, making the race an event for the whole family and nation. Once again hosting the best in international auto racing and loyal fans, the Corona Road Race was met with more success than ever. Crowds roared as Eddie Pullen took his last lap and finished first.

Due to a shift in race season, from fall to spring, the third annual Corona Road Race was delayed until 1916. On the day of the race, April 8, the city of Corona experienced record-breaking heat waves. While twelve cars entered the race, only five completed it. With numerous overheating vehicles and several tire blowouts, disaster was imminent. As racer Bob Burman rounded the 97th lap, his car plunged into onlooking spectators, killing him and two members of his crew. Though a beloved event rich with history, the tragic incident of the 1916 Corona Road Race, lack of financial success, and complaints from neighbors led to the end of the race and a tradition the city of Corona and the nation had grown to love.

Today, a monument indicating the start and finish line of the Road Race remains at the cross of Grand Boulevard and Washburn in Corona, a constant reminder of the glory days of the Corona Road Race. Though tragic events led to its demise, the Corona Road Race was an important element in launching Corona to national recognition, and furthering the sport of auto racing. I am honored to represent Corona and its rich history in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MICHAEL McCABE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and legacy of our dear friend Michael McCabe. An active member of our community and a proud South Buffalonian, Mike passed away in November of 2012 after a hard-fought battle with brain cancer. To honor Mike's memory, Today's Rowin', Growin' and Throwin' 5k will benefit Carly's Club and cancer research.

Born and raised in South Buffalo, Michael graduated from Bishop Timon High School and the University at Buffalo.

Mike lived in South Buffalo for his entire life, demonstrating his deep pride through his honorable community service. He was the long-time commissioner of the St. Martin's Athletic Club, and a member of the Erie County Democratic Committee.

Professionally, Mike served as a teacher in the Buffalo Public Schools for thirty-seven years. Day in and day out, he dedicated his boundless energy and talents to his students.

After school hours, Mike was an avid sailor. His boat, The Irish Wake, was a fixture in the RCR Marina in downtown Buffalo.

In September 2011, Michael was diagnosed with brain cancer. While he and his family faced this unfathomable tragedy, Mike remained upbeat and positive. Just one year later, Mike lost his battle with cancer.

Mike's spirit of goodwill and passion for public service lives on through his family. He loved and cherished his wife, Maureen, their four sons, Michael, Sean, Chris, and Bret, daughter Mollie, and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the life and legacy of Mike McCabe and his energy and passion for our community. I am proud to continue the fight for funding for cancer research, to improve the quality of care for those affected by cancer, and ultimately, to find a cure.

HONORING GREATER DAMASCUS
CHURCH OF CHRIST (HOLINESS)
U.S.A.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a pillar of the community, Greater Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A.

One of the most prominent churches in the Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. Movement is Greater Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A., on 1013 Damascus Circle, Hazlehurst, Mississippi. Since its beginning, the Church has been instrumental in the community's development.

As far as records indicate, Damascus Church began during slavery, and grew out of the white Damascus Baptist Church. In 1865, when the slaves were set free, a division arose in the church due to a disposition of Negro membership freed of bondage after the

Civil War. Because of this, the Negro congregation was given ten acres of land to continue their worship service. In 1867, the already established colored Damascus Baptist Church began having services in a brush arbor under the leadership of Rev. Tom Askerneese as pastor. He served from 1867 until his death in 1872, a total of five years.

In 1872, Elder W. S. Pleasant was elected pastor. He pastored the Damascus Baptist Church from 1872 to 1896, which was twenty-four years. In 1896, Elder Pleasant and the Church joined with Bishop Charles Price Jones, founder of the Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A., and Damascus Church became one of the first churches to join the "Holiness Movement." The Church became known as Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. The Church was able to move out of the brush arbor into their erected church building under Elder Pleasant's leadership. He served as pastor of the new denominational church from 1896 to 1918, twenty-two years. Elder Pleasant's total service to Damascus Church was forty-six years. He resigned as pastor to do evangelistic work. He died February 7, 1935.

In 1919, the Church accepted Elder L. J. Brunson as the second pastor of the new denominational church. He pastored from 1919 to 1932, a total of twelve years, before resigning to go to Norfolk, Virginia. He died in 1941.

On January 27, 1931, the Rev. George A. Thomas, a man of many talents, came as pastor of Damascus Church. In 1966, Rev. Thomas built the second church since the brush arbor. The dedication of the church was held on September 15, 1966. In June 1971, the adjoining building to the church was built to serve as classrooms and as a dining hall. Rev. Thomas served as pastor of Damascus Church longer than either of the previous pastors. His tenure lasted January 27, 1931 until his death on January 13, 1980, a term of forty-nine years.

After the death of Rev. Thomas, the Church sought out a new pastor. In a call meeting, May 1980, the congregation voted to accept Elder Arnold Stanton, Sr., who came as pastor in September, 1980. The third church was built and dedicated to God in August 1986. The contractor was Damascus' own, Deacon George A. Harris, Sr. The new sanctuary led to the name changing from Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. to Greater Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. On December 25, 1994, Elder Stanton resigned as pastor of Greater Damascus Church. His tenure lasted fourteen years.

January 1, 1995, Greater Damascus Church was without a pastor. Elder Clifton Goodloe, Jr., accompanied by his lovely wife, Sister Delores Goodloe, came and conducted the morning service. Elder Goodloe's text was taken from Acts 24:10-16, and the thought was, "Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide." On Monday, January 2, 1995, the Church's first business meeting of the new year was conducted by Bishop Maurice D. Bingham, Presiding Prelate of the South Central Diocese of the Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. Bishop Bingham was accompanied by Elder Eddie Jones, Jr., pastor of the Crystal Springs Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. In this business meeting, the congregation of Greater Damascus Church voted to accept Elder Clifton Goodloe, Jr. as pastor.

On January 8, 1995, Elder Clifton Goodloe, Jr. became pastor of Greater Damascus

Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. Elder Goodloe's main goal and objective is to "Preach God's Word in His Fullness" so when men, women, boys and girls hear the "Word" they may be convicted and become saved. Elder Goodloe is in his nineteenth year as pastor of Greater Damascus Church.

"Damascus Church" has produced five "Sons of the House." They are the late Elder C. D. Tate, Sr., Rev. Ellis Blackwell, Jr., Elder Henry Smiley, Elder Andre' Tyler and Elder Nicholas Tanner.

Greater Damascus Church has had a grand processional of Christian soldiers who labored for many, many years and laid a solid foundation for generations to follow. Those who are gone have left a rich heritage that should not be merely praised and testified to, it must be built upon.

Greater Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. has been in existence one hundred and forty-nine years, in the "Holiness Movement" one hundred and seventeen years, and six pastors during this time. What a legacy!

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Greater Damascus Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A. as they strive to be the guide for others to find the joy of serving God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF KLEBERG COUNTY,
TEXAS

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Kleberg County, Texas.

The recorded history of the land which includes Kleberg County precedes the establishment of the United States, and Kleberg County was already well on its way to prominent status when local leaders successfully petitioned the Texas Legislature in 1913 to break away from Nueces County and establish a new county.

Over the last century several key developments helped spur growth and development in Kleberg County.

An anchor of Kleberg County, the King Ranch was established in 1853 when Richard King purchased the Santa Gertrudis grant from the heirs of the original Spanish grantees. The King Ranch continues to thrive today as an industry leader in the fields of farming, ranching, and conserving natural resources.

The establishment of the City of Kingsville and the construction of railroad lines helped bring new industry to the region. Over the past 100 years, the county has been a top producer of energy and agricultural commodities, and the county's proximity to the Gulf of Mexico has made it a destination for visitors from around the world who come for the clear blue water and rich diversity of wildlife.

Kleberg County saw the establishment of Naval Auxiliary Air Station Kingsville in 1942. The base originally trained military aviators for combat. Now known as Naval Air Station Kingsville, the base remains one of the U.S. Navy's premier locations for jet aviation training.

Texas A&M University Kingsville, originally established as South Texas Teachers College in 1921, is the oldest continuously operating public institution of higher learning in south Texas, and the first in the Nation to develop a doctoral program for bilingual education.

It truly is a privilege and honor to represent Kleberg County in the United States House of Representatives, and I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in celebrating this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED COLLEGE ACTION NETWORK

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the United College Action Network, (U-CAN), and to congratulate this fine organization on 25 years of service. As U-CAN's founders, staff and supporters gather to celebrate 25 years of unparalleled service to the Sacramento community, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring this organization.

Founded on September 12, 1988, by Alan and Donna Rowe, U-CAN has helped countless high school students attend college. U-CAN specializes in providing college opportunities at historically black colleges and universities for students who may not normally pursue a college degree.

U-CAN's successful model includes outreach, educational support, and mentoring services to students and their parents. U-CAN has built strong partnerships with local school districts, admissions officers, financial aid departments, coaches and department deans. Due in large part to their track record, they enjoy supportive relationships with a wide variety of faith, businesses and community organizations. U-CAN seeks to recruit and support socially and economically disadvantaged students regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or national origin to attend historically black colleges and universities. Since its inception, U-CAN has assisted over 54,000 students in achieving their dream of a college education, generated \$55 million in scholarship awards for students, and made it possible for 15,000 students to be accepted to historically black colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, on their 25th anniversary, I am pleased to the United College Action Network for their service to students from the Greater Sacramento Area. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this organization and wishing them continued success as they serve local students as they pursue a college degree.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OLD ELYTON CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, I want to extend com-

mendations to the Old Elyton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The members of the Old Elyton Chapter are guardians of our nation's cherished history of freedom and, through their educational initiatives with young people especially, are ensuring that there will be continuing respect and reverence for the democratic principles that are the foundation of America. Through their service, they fulfill the motto of the National Society of the DAR: God, Home, and Country.

The Old Elyton Chapter has deep roots in Alabama. In fact, its very name is historical and is associated with the formation of the City of Birmingham. The chapter was organized by Mrs. J. Morgan (Kate Duncan) Smith and her daughter, Mrs. Samuel L. Earle, on January 4, 1913, just 23 years after the formal organization of the National Society of the DAR.

The chapter's 100th anniversary celebration falls on the 226th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution by the Continental Congress. The selection of the date of September 17, which is highly significant to the origins of our great nation, was fitting for an organization whose own members trace their family heritage to the Patriots of the American Revolution.

The Old Elyton Chapter has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the principles of the National Society of the DAR, a volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism and preserving American history through the education of young people. Its purpose is drawn directly from its charter, which was incorporated by an Act of Congress in 1896: "To perpetuate the memory and spirit of women and men who achieved American independence; to promote, as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge; to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; to foster true patriotism and love of country." The volunteer initiatives of DAR members include support for student financial aid and scholarships and donations to schools for the underprivileged.

A major service project of the Old Elyton Chapter is its continuing support of the Kate Duncan Smith DAR School in Grant, Alabama. Established in 1924, it is the only K-12 school in the United States owned and operated by chapters of the DAR. Known as the "Gem of Gunter Mountain," the school annually provides more than 1,000 children in the remote Appalachian area of Northeast Alabama with schooling, extra-curricular activities, clothing, health care, daily nutrition through a free breakfast and lunch program, training in life skills, and a love of American ideals. It exemplifies the best principles of the DAR in action.

The members of the Old Elyton Chapter of the DAR are proud supporters of our troops and veterans. They participate in many events honoring our veterans in the Birmingham area and remind us that we are able to enjoy the freedoms we have today only because of the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform in the past and now in the present.

Patriotism in the Birmingham community and the State of Alabama runs deep and the Old Elyton Chapter of the DAR has been an essential part of maintaining that tradition through many generations. Having completed one hundred years of vital service, it now prepares to embark on its second century of promoting American ideals and values. On behalf

of the people of the Sixth District, let me congratulate the Old Elyton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and send best wishes and blessings to all of its members.

HONORING THE CAREER OF JIM SAMPSON UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the remarkable career of Mr. James Sampson as he retires from his position of President and Chief Executive Officer of Gateway-Longview, Inc. One of Western New York's largest child welfare agencies, Gateway-Longview has expanded exponentially during Jim's nine years as President and CEO.

During Jim's tenure, Gateway-Longview has expanded to include eighteen different programs, serving 3,400 children and families per year. His work includes the establishment of Gateway-Longview's Family Resource Center, Behavioral Mental Health Clinic, and Supervised Independent Living Program. Located on East Ferry Street, the Family Resource Center promotes familial strength and provides bonding activities such as tutoring, swim classes and music lessons. Jim assisted in creating Gateway-Longview's Behavioral Mental Health Clinic, which tends to the emotional needs of Gateway children and families. The program currently has two satellite offices in Buffalo Public Schools, with five more set to open in the fall, to ensure our city's children receive the care they desperately need. For teens that have not been adopted but have aged out of foster care, Gateway created a Supervised Independent Living Program to help teens develop the skills necessary to live independently and become self-sufficient.

Jim is a truly dedicated public servant. Beyond his work with Gateway-Longview, Jim was elected to serve on the City of Buffalo School Board this past May, and is a founding member and trustee of the West Buffalo Charter School. Under appointment from Governor Cuomo, he serves as Chair of the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority, and has previously been a member of the Board of Directors for the Buffalo Niagara Partnership. Jim is also involved with the Rotary Club of Buffalo.

Jim's undergraduate years were spent at the University at Buffalo, where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Social Work. For his graduate studies, Jim attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison for his Master's in Social Work. Current, he holds the position of adjunct professor for the University at Buffalo's School of Social Work, teaching leadership, management, and administration.

Jim's love for children and families stems from his own. He is happily married to his wife, Florence, with whom he has two children. His son Gregory is a lawyer and Assistant Parliamentarian for the United States Senate, living in College Park, Maryland with his wife, Jamie and their two children, Isaac and Kira. His daughter, Robin, is the lead scientist for the Department of Energy Solar Energy Loan Guarantee Program, living in Washington, D.C. with her husband Dr. Frank Wong.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the inspiring career of Mr. Jim Sampson. His work for Western New York's children and families is truly admirable, and I wish him the best in his retirement.

HONORING FARISH STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Farish Street Baptist Church. Organized in 1893, Farish Street Baptist Church has been blessed by the vitality, imagination, and inspiration of its leadership.

The Reverend Elbert B. Topp served as pastor of Mt. Helm Baptist Church from 1888–1893, when, according to Patrick Thompson in his book *History of Negro Baptists in Mississippi*, “he (Topp) with 210 members came out and organized what is now known as the Farish Street Baptist Church.” The newly formed church held worship services in the Congregational Church, which was then located at the corner of Capitol and Lamar Streets. White Jacksonians would line the bridge to hear the choir sing, giving generously to the collections. Soon the infant congregation had enough money to purchase the lot at the corner of Farish and Church Streets. It was here that the newly organized congregation built the first place of worship—a frame structure. Lightning destroyed this building and it was replaced by a two-story frame structure. The second story was reserved for worship, with all other activities, including funerals, taking place on the first level. A fire, which began on Oakley Street and spread, destroyed the second building. Determined to minimize this threat in the future, in 1909, Reverend Topp led the membership in constructing a brick building. He pastored Farish Street Baptist Church until 1916.

Reverend Topp died on October 3, 1925. The October 9 edition of the *Advance Dispatch* carried a front page announcement of his death. Of Topp, Patrick Thompson wrote, “no member of the convention and state is more conspicuous and popular. Reverend Topp is good natured and full of life. True to his fellow preachers and has but few equals as a gospel minister.”

Reverend E. L. Twine, an Alcorn College graduate and teacher of mathematics, was called to serve the Church in 1916, and for three years, he labored faithfully. During that brief tenure, he encouraged the congregation to purchase new pews and to make a substantial payment on the church mortgage, which had been left from previous years. His pastorate was to be the shortest during the Church's first 100 years of existence. Because of his stately nature, Reverend Twine would be known by his contemporaries as the “Black Prince of Mississippi.”

In November 1919, the Church extended the call to Reverend Chester Arthur Greer. Reverend Greer had pastored and taught school in Arkansas and Mississippi, and at the time he was called to Farish Street Baptist Church, he was serving as pastor of Second Baptist Church in Oxford, Mississippi. He

served as pastor of Farish Street Baptist Church until November 1927. During those eight years, the mortgage was paid in full; the bell tower was completed; an annex was built onto the 1909 structure; a parsonage was bought; an old note of \$500.00 on Dr. Topp's salary, held by Brother C. C. Sims against the Church was redeemed; 40,000 bricks were bought and placed on the church grounds to be used in the construction of a new church facility; plans and specifications with an architect's rendering had been presented in the church conference on March 4, 1926, and had been approved without one dissenting vote; several hundred dollars were raised and negotiations for a loan of \$20,000 were initiated. However, in November 1927, just a little more than a year after Dr. Greer had presented those plans to the church, he resigned and moved to Fort Worth, Texas, to accept the pastorate of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church.

Reverend W. L. Varnado assumed the pastorate of Farish Street Baptist Church in April 1928. Perhaps Reverend Varnado will be remembered best as the only person to pastor Jackson's three historic black congregations—Mt. Helm, College Hill and Farish Street Baptist Churches. During his term of service, the membership increased and two rooms were added to the parsonage. Reverend Varnado was a great churchman. It was during his pastorate that a young Jackson State College student from the Class of 1927 was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry the future leader of six million black Baptists? Dr. Varnado resigned in October 1934 to accept a pastorate in Jackson, Tennessee.

Without fanfare, the man who had served diligently as the third pastor returned in January 1935, to begin his second pastorate. Reverend Chester A. Greer began a building program, which resulted in the replacement of the forty year old structure with a modern building, which still serves the congregation today. The ground-breaking ceremony was a joyous occasion. Mrs. Lillie Bentley and Mr. Turner M. Patterson, two of the original 210 members to leave Mt. Helm Baptist Church in 1893, participated in breaking ground for the new facility. Dr. Jacob L. Reddix, President of Jackson State College, Chairman of the Trustee Board of Farish Street Baptist Church, gave invaluable advice during the construction phase. At the laying of the corner stone, Jackson State College Band performed to the delight of the congregation. Dedication services for the newly constructed church building were held during the week of March 5–12, 1950. A renewed people joined hands with their sisters and brothers to praise Him Who is the great Builder and without Whom they that build, build in vain.

After serving for twenty-three years during his second pastorate, Reverend Greer was successful in retiring the debt and burning the mortgage before his victorious and faithful members. With his health on the decline, Reverend Greer decided to retire from the pulpit in March 1958. Reverend Greer was named “Pastor Emeritus” of the Church. Three decades of service to a great people had come to an end. The assistant pastor, Reverend G. W. Williams, supplied the pulpit until a successor was elected. Reverend Greer died on August 13, 1962.

During the summer of 1958, a young seminary teacher, Reverend S. Leon Whitney, came to Jackson to teach at the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. He was invited to preach to the congregation at Farish Street Baptist Church. Impressed with his preaching, on September 4, 1958, the congregation instructed the Pulpit Committee, chaired by Brother M. M. Hubert, to interview Reverend Whitney. On September 22, 1958, the Pulpit Committee made its recommendation to the Church. A meeting to vote on extending a call was set for the third Sunday in October. However, Brother D. T. Mason offered a motion that the rules be suspended and that Reverend Whitney be elected pastor that night. The motion carried and the church extended the call to pastor to Reverend Whitney. Thus began a term of service that lasted ten years.

Unlike his predecessors, Reverend Whitney did not inherit the financial debts of former years. He found a congregation ready for new leadership. Reverend Whitney served wisely and made many improvements in the order of service. Moreover, he rejuvenated the spirit of the Church and increased the membership. He encouraged the establishment of a centralized treasury. The baptistry was elevated, and the building was renovated and redecorated. This youthful, energetic preacher accepted the challenge and embarked upon an aggressive ministry of evangelism, stewardship and social concerns. It was these social concerns—the freedom rides, the sit-ins, the protest marches and the mass meetings—that helped shape the ministry of this congregation during the turbulent sixties. Yet, despite ten years of fruitful, positive and constructive leadership in the church and community, Reverend Whitney resigned the pastorate of Farish Street Baptist Church in May 1968, to accept the pastorate of New Prospect Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan.

In June 1968, Reverend Hickman M. Johnson, Chaplain of Tougaloo College, was invited to serve as interim minister. On July 22, 1968, the church voted to call Reverend Johnson and on August 4, 1968, he preached his first sermon as pastor. On December 1, 1968, Reverend Johnson was installed as the sixth pastor of Farish Street Baptist Church. Reverend Johnson brought to the Church a strong capacity for effective organization. He recommended that the Church become incorporated and on November 13, 1969, a Charter of Incorporation was issued to Farish Street Baptist Church by the State of Mississippi. He labored for a continuous and consistent building program and established the necessary framework for the most diversified religious education and service-oriented programs in the Church's history. A 1969 church brochure described the proposed building addition as being “of contemporary design, functional, attractive and air-conditioned, with ample parking . . . the first floor includes: administrative complex—church office, pastor's study; fellowship-assembly hall, game room, dining room, kitchen; the second floor includes: education-nursery, ten large multi-purpose classrooms.” While improvements were to be made on the 1969 model, nevertheless, the functions on which this model were based remain unchanged: a) education, b) fellowship, and c) administration.

At the 1976 Annual Meeting, the Building Committee recommended that the Church authorize its officers to secure a commitment for

permanent financing in the amount of \$225,000. On February 10, 1976, a contract was signed with Charles Craig, project architect, to design and provide a set of working drawings. Invitations to Bid were tendered and proposals received from various contractors were tabulated and groundbreaking ceremonies for the new building were timed to coincide with the celebration of the Church's 83rd Anniversary. One year later, in May 1977, the Educational Building was dedicated. This would be the first of several major improvements to the physical property completed during the Johnson's years. Dr. Johnson is an administrator with great spirit; an historian who is cognizant of the importance of a people's heritage; a businessman with a vision. He is a theologian and a teacher, who strives daily to build an even stronger congregation at Farish Street Baptist Church—a congregation committed to serve this community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Farish Street Baptist Church.

HONORING RUBEN ARGUELLES

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ruben Arguelles to express my deep appreciation for all that he has done for south Texas students.

For the last 23 years, Mr. Arguelles has dedicated himself to educating young people. He spent six years in the classroom as a teacher and 17 years as an administrator leading students, teachers, and staff. His commitment to the Rio Grande Valley is reflected in his service across several independent school districts (ISD)—Weslaco ISD, Progreso ISD, Mercedes ISD, and Santa Rosa ISD.

In every position he has held, Mr. Arguelles demonstrated a tireless focus on ensuring that children have access to the best possible education to prepare them for the future. His dedication also extended to providing a supportive school environment, improving the community, and bettering the lives of South Texas families.

In his last two years at Santa Rosa ISD, Mr. Arguelles faced a great personal challenge. Although he was diagnosed with cancer, Mr. Arguelles continued to serve as principal even as he underwent grueling treatment. Even in the most difficult of times, Mr. Arguelles remained focused on his mission as an educator.

On behalf of all those whose lives he touched, I rise to recognize the exemplary service of Ruben Arguelles. His dedication, even when faced with illness, is an inspiration to us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY AND NATIONAL SERVICE OF AUSTIN J. BURKE, PRESIDENT OF THE GREATER SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career-long community and national service of Austin Burke, who is retiring this year as President of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

Scranton, Pennsylvania in my district has been through a lot of changes since Austin Burke took the reins at the Chamber back in 1981. Mr. Burke helped lead the effort to transform Scranton's former industrial economy into a new economy that is better positioned to sustain jobs and growth throughout the 21st Century.

Reclaiming and re-using thousands of acres of leftover mining land has been a major accomplishment of the Chamber under Austin's leadership. Putting that land into new business use has created thousands of jobs and fueled economic growth in greater Scranton. Mr. Burke also worked closely with federal and local officials to bring the Steamtown National Historic Site to downtown Scranton. This was a key step toward improving the city's image and bringing in tourists. If we can bring back passenger rail service for both tourists and commuters, the connection between Scranton's past and future will be even more complete.

Austin Burke's counsel and ideas have been valued in both the Pennsylvania governor's office and the White House in Washington. He was a leader at the national level through his groundbreaking successes here in Scranton and his involvement with the U.S. Chamber on its nationwide initiatives.

Austin served in the Air Force in his earlier years, and he has always brought a strong sense of commitment, loyalty and professionalism to his work at the Chamber. He is an easy guy to look up to. Everyone in Scranton is indebted to Austin Burke for his many years of community development work, and I wish him and his family the very best for his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THERESA JEPSEN

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mesa Community College student Theresa Jepsen, recipient of a 2013 Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship. Each recipient receives \$2000 toward defraying the cost of their nursing education.

Theresa was chosen for the scholarship on the basis of an essay she wrote in response to the documentary, A Nurse I Am. She was asked to consider aspects of cultural sensitivity demonstrated by nurses in the film, as well as to respond to how she would dem-

onstrate such sensitivity herself. Theresa wrote that "the nursing field requires a unique trifecta of emotional intelligence, adaptation, and cultural awareness . . . and it falls to the nurse to discover the client's cultural basis and the values therein in order to serve fully."

I share Theresa's sentiments and applaud her thoughtfulness. Nurses interact intimately with patients, serving them face-to-face, every day. It is of utmost importance that we train nurses who treat patients holistically, caring for them with competence, kindness, and respect. Nurses have the opportunity to positively impact patients' health and thereby overall lives. I congratulate Cherokee Uniforms and Mesa Community College for their support of Theresa and this admirable scholarship program.

Given her accomplishment as well as the support provided by Mesa Community College and the collaborating scholarship foundation, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Theresa Jepsen for her reception of a Cherokee A Nurse I Am Scholarship.

HONORING DIAMOND HAWK GOLF COURSE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Diamond Hawk Golf Course as it is awarded the 2013 Small Business of the Year award by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

Originally a hunting area, construction on the Diamond Hawk Golf Course began in 2004. The name Diamond Hawk reflects the land's history, combining "Diamond," an enduring and precious figure and the "Hawk," after the red-tailed hawks that frequented the hunting area.

Completed in 2006, the Diamond Hawk Golf Course is a par 72, 18-hole golf course. Its state-of-the-art facilities include a driving range, pro shop and an 8,000 square foot clubhouse. Diamond Hawk is widely regarded as one of Western New York's premiere golf courses. In 2007, Buffalo Spree rated the course the Top Public Golf Course in the area.

Throughout its development, one of the course's biggest supporters has been Sam Tadio. Sam's community service efforts are well-known in Cheektowaga. He has held volunteer positions with the Traffic Commission, Narcotics Commission and Police Commission. Reflecting Sam's altruism, the course hosts a variety of high school and junior golf tournaments, as well as charitable events.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the Diamond Hawk Golf Course and the great work of its advocates and employees as it is awarded Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce's 2013 Small Business of the Year Award. Their commitment to their community and guests exemplifies the highest quality of small business in our country.

HONORING ANDERSON UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Anderson United Methodist Church Jackson, Mississippi.

Anderson United Methodist Church began as a mission in 1914 under the leadership of local ministers from the Central and Pratt Methodist Episcopal Churches. One of the ministers, the late Rev. R. L. Pickens, then pastor of Central, helped organize the Cloverleaf Methodist Episcopal Mission. During the 1920s, the first group of members met at the home of William Harper on Woodrow Wilson Avenue where they worshiped until a specific location was secured.

By 1928, a temporary house of worship for the Mission had been obtained, an old abandoned store on Whitfield Mill Road, (now Martin Luther King Dr.). In 1936, a lot on Spring Street was purchased, and the first church building was constructed. It was named for the Rev. R. L. Anderson the first conference appointed minister. Rev. Anderson died in 1930. The Rev. I. R. Kersh, Sr., was the pastor at the time Anderson Chapel, as it was known then, was constructed. During the next fifty-five years, the following ministers Pastored Anderson Chapel: Reverends J.C. Bell, Golden Price, S.L. Webb, W.J. Eubanks, N.W. Ross, R.D. Gerald, Whalon Blackmon, T.S. Davis, A.L. Holland, F.P. Leonard, C.P. Payne, H.C. Clay, Sr., and John L. Baker.

In September 1952, under the leadership of Rev. Blackmon, a new structure was built on Page Street and given the name Anderson Memorial. In 1968, under C.P. Payne, Anderson Memorial became Anderson United Methodist Church. In 1972, during the tenure of Rev. Clay, the white and black United Methodist conference merged into one conference. In 1985, Rev. Jeffrey A. Stallworth was appointed pastor at Anderson. It was under his leadership that the church moved to 485 West Northside Drive.

Because of the tremendous growth, Anderson relocated to I-220 at Hanging Moss Road in November, 1994. At this time, membership was over 1,600. After being at this location for only two years, in December 1996 the membership at Anderson surpassed the 3,000 mark.

In June 2002, the Reverend Joe W. May became Pastor of Anderson United Methodist Church. As membership continue to rise, Anderson United Methodist Church works diligently to provide a friendly worship atmosphere.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Anderson United Methodist Church.

IN PRAISE OF DR. THOMAS F.
FREEMAN: EDUCATOR, SCHOLAR,
AND LEGENDARY COACH AND
TEACHER OF THE ART OF DE-
BATE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Thomas F. Freeman, who for more than 60 years has been a professor of philosophy at Texas Southern University, which is located in my congressional district.

In addition to being an educator and scholar of the first rank, Dr. Freeman is world renowned as the legendary coach and teacher of the art of forensic debate. It is therefore most fitting that he is being honored today in Houston at Texas Southern University Founders Day Convocation.

Dr. Freeman has shaped the lives of countless young people who were his students, including the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, who once held the seat I now hold. Dr. Freeman's tools were the spoken word. His canvas was the minds of the brilliant and talented young African Americans seeking a higher education.

A prodigy himself, Dr. Freeman graduated from Virginia Union University at the age of 18 and went on to become a professor at Virginia Union University before his 30th birthday. He would later receive degrees from Andover Newton Theological School; Harvard University; Chicago Divinity School; the University of Vienna in Austria, and the University of Liberia in Africa.

In 1949, Dr. Freeman was among a group of accomplished academics of color hired by Texas Southern University (TSU). The same year he held a debate in his TSU logic class using his own undergraduate experience as a guide.

Debate is defined as a contention by words or arguments; or as a formal discussion of a motion before a deliberative body according to the rules of parliamentary procedure; or a regulated discussion of a proposition between two matched sides. But to Dr. Freeman, it was much more than a contest; it was a way of life.

Dr. Freeman understood, as did Socrates when he said to Glaucón in Book X of the Republic that "the contest is great my dear Glaucón, greater than it seems—this contest that concerns becoming good or bad." Dr. Freeman's success was informed by his passionate belief that strong debate skills translated into a range of life skills that would serve students well in their personal lives and professional careers.

Dr. Freeman's academic roots in moral philosophy and theology came through in his instruction of his debate team students. Through the art of debate, Dr. Freeman taught what the ancients Greeks called arete, which is defined as an "activity of the soul in accord with virtue in a complete life." As Aristotle explains in the Nicomachean Ethics, happiness comes from exercising the full range of one's vital powers directed toward excellence.

Virtue and excellence and happiness is what Dr. Freeman taught his students and that is why he and they were special. In 1949, the

TSU students who participated in Dr. Freeman's debate class were so impressed with their experience that they requested that Dr. Freeman to form and coach a team. Dr. Freeman agreed and founded the Texas Southern University debate program which today is world renowned for its skill and for the number of championships won.

Dr. Freeman is internationally known for his debate coaching prowess and for the prominent Americans who studied under his tutelage. Among them are the late Congresswoman Barbara Jordan and the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The debating skills that young Barbara Jordan developed under Dr. Freeman's tutelage were so formidable that she became the first female to travel with the TSU debate team. She and her debate partner Otis King participated in and won many awards, including the championship at Baylor University, the first integrated debate match held in the South.

Barbara Jordan went on to become a Texas State Senator and the first Texas African American woman elected to the House of Representatives from my state. She characterized her experience of learning under his tutelage as having shaped her view of the importance of mastering the skills of debate. Congresswoman Jordan and Dr. Freeman remained close and upon her death he gave the eulogy at her funeral.

Dr. Freeman's skill as a debate coach came to the attention of Denzel Washington when he sought a model for the role of a debate coach for his role in the critically acclaimed film "The Great Debaters," based on life of Melvin B. Tolson, who formed the Wiley College debate team. The Wiley College debate team defeated the University of Southern California (USC) debate team for the 1935 national championship.

One of the students who was a student in Dr. Freeman's class during his tenure as a visiting lecturer at Morehouse University was a young Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Freeman had such an influential effect on him that years later while Dr. Freeman and a group of students happened to be in the same restaurant as Dr. King he was surprised when Dr. King approached his table to say hello. Dr. King reminded Dr. Freeman that he had been a student in his Morehouse class and explained to the students how much that experience shaped his life.

Dr. Freeman's contributions to the Texas Southern University Community included serving as Founding Dean of both the Weekend College and the Honors College. Dr. Freeman worked with then TSU President Granville M. Sawyer to develop the program and serve as its dean. The Honors College, renamed in his honor as the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College, was developed for academically gifted and motivated students to provide them with the most rigorous and challenging academic regimen.

In 1972, Dr. Freeman was asked by Rice University to join its faculty after it had desegregated. Dr. Freeman began a 23-year career association with Rice University. As near as anyone recalls, he was the first African American professor to teach at this prestigious university before returning to TSU where he resumed teaching and leading the TSU debate team to countless victories.

This weekend TSU will honor Dr. Freeman's 60 years of service, and I join them in recognizing the impact a great teacher can have in

changing the world for the better through his or her students. Too often a teaching career is viewed by too many as an option taken by those who cannot excel elsewhere. But those of us who know better know that it is the great teacher that makes it possible for us to succeed anywhere and in any pursuit.

Dr. Freeman was and is such a teacher. But as he lived a full and complete life rooted in excellence, virtue, and service, he also was a minister of the gospel, community leader, husband, father, mentor, and a friend to thousands. It can truly be said of Dr. Freeman that his has been a consequential life.

That is why Dr. Freeman is legendary and deserving of the fitting tribute of being honored at the 2013 Founder's Day Convocation at Texas Southern University.

Congratulations Dr. Freeman and thank you for your service to TSU, to America, and to humanity.

RECOGNIZING COSTANZO'S BAKERY, INC.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize Costanzo's Bakery, Inc. and the Costanzo family, as they receive the Special Presentation Award from the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce. The company is an outstanding employer and well-run company that showcases the endless possibilities of growth for businesses today in Western New York.

In 1933, Angelo Costanzo started a small business along the Niagara River known as Costanzo's Bread. His Italian breads became a household name in supermarkets and grocery stores around Buffalo. In the 1970's Angelo Sr. realized the growth in sub and pizza shops around the area, and expanded his business to sell to local food service establishments.

In 1977, Angelo Jr. and his brother took over the bakery and moved into a new location on Union Road in Cheektowaga. It was here that Costanzo's grew to serve a national marketplace by developing a line of frozen, fully baked sub rolls and round rolls. This was the beginning of Costanzo's Bakery, Inc.

Costanzo's now represents the last remaining member of a once vibrant baking industry locally. The industry has faced many issues over the last several years. Customer demands, compliance costs and increased commodity prices have negatively impacted many bakeries. But Costanzo's has continued to grow, due to its "recipe for success" that it has maintained for eight decades.

The company's products are delivered fresh up to five days a week to dozens of local delis, convenience stores, specialty markets, and supermarkets throughout the region. It has also launched many new products including brioche rolls, artisan style sandwich rolls, rustic-style sub rolls, whole wheat rolls and spicy Buffalo rolls.

While the recipes have stayed the same, Costanzo's has been innovative in developing strategies to meet modern challenges. With the goal of selling its bread to all people regardless of location, it has recently established

a national sales team comprised of a director of national accounts and a corporate chef to work directly with multi-unit retail and food service accounts nationwide. The company has also partnered with a Canadian food distributor to represent the brand in Ontario and Quebec. Costanzo's is also pursuing a British Retail Consortium certification, which is the highest level of quality and food safety certification in the industry.

The bakery employs over 120 full and part-time employees, many of whom reside in Cheektowaga and the surrounding areas of the Buffalo-Niagara Region. In addition, Costanzo's gives back to the community providing donations to over 40 non-profit organizations and community groups throughout Erie County.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Costanzo's Bakery and the Costanzo family as they receive their Special Presentation Award from the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce. For the past 80 years, they have demonstrated impressive commitment to our community, their customers, and employees. Their quality service and history is known throughout Western New York, and we are proud to have such reputable small businesses filled with hard-working employees in our region.

HONORING GREENWOOD CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Greenwood Chapel United Methodist Church Carthage, Mississippi. The Word: "The State of Mississippi, Leake County, and The Indenture made this 31 day of January 1872 between Bennett E. Charthan and Catherine Charthan, his wife, of the first part deed to the Colored People of the south end of said property in Beat 3", was taken from the deed which deeded to at that time, land for the church and school.

The church building most remembered would be the one that faced the road with the tall steps. On May 5, 1944 one acre of land was sold to the Trustees of Greenwood Chapel Colored Church, the land located behind the present day church by Susie Truesdale. In 1960, the church was rebuilt under the leadership for Reverend Russell. The trustees at that time were: Presley (Jack) Smith, Grant Matlock, Edward W. (Ed) Merchant, Willie (Bill) Smith, and Jefferson (Jeff) Smith, Sr.

In 1975, Dorothy Peterson, Douglas Peterson, and Gwen Peterson sold additional land to Greenwood Chapel Methodist Church. The trustees at that time were: Clarence Smith, Bennett Smith, Cogan Matlock, Melvin Carson, Presley (Jack) Smith, and Clytie Coleman.

The church was rebuilt in 1960 under the contractor, Presley (Jack) Smith, Sr. In 1978 the church was remodeled again with Presley (Jack) Smith being the primary contractor. This occurred under the leadership of Reverend John Cornelius.

In 1995, construction was started on a Fellowship Hall under the leadership of Reverend James Morris. In June of 1996, Reverend Marlon King was assigned as pastor and

under his leadership the Fellowship Hall was completed. Clytie Coleman, Herman Hall, Robert Lee Harris, and James Matlock served as builders. Reverend Marlon King was reassigned as pastor for four years. In June of 2000, Reverend Willie Handy was appointed to serve as pastor.

Services are conducted on the first and third Sunday of each month, with the first Sunday in August serving as the churches Homecoming.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Greenwood Chapel United Methodist Church.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN AVOIDANCE ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the District of Columbia Government Shutdown Avoidance Act of 2013 to eliminate the prospect of a District of Columbia government shutdown on September 30, 2013, or ever again. This bill is essential because a new fiscal year is upon us and D.C.'s local, balanced budget, which has been approved by the House and Senate Appropriations committees, has not reached the floor in either house. Frequent shutdown threats to the local D.C. government have been costly and disruptive to the city government, its employees and its residents, including many federal officials and employees who reside in the District. This bill would add to existing authorities the city has long had to spend its local funds by permanently authorizing the District government to spend its local funds in the event of a Federal Government shutdown and therefore remain open.

Because of the uncertainty and adverse effects on the city caused by increasingly frequent shutdown threats, I am taking several actions to try to prevent a D.C. government shutdown at the end of the month. I begin by introducing this bill. I must take action now because some Republicans are threatening to block a new spending bill when the current bill expires on September 30 unless the new bill defunds the Affordable Care Act, which could lead to a shutdown of both the Federal and District governments, and because the House is scheduled to be in session for only five days before September 30. In case my bill is not enacted in time, I will also offer an amendment to the fiscal year 2014 short-term continuing resolution (CR) (H.J. Res. 59) to authorize the District government to spend its local funds for all of fiscal year 2014, and not only until the expiration of the CR on December 15, 2013, so that the city does not face a shutdown threat again when the CR expires in December.

The D.C. government should never have to wonder whether it will be shut down. I do not believe any Member wants to shut down the D.C. government and bring a large, complicated city to its knees because of a purely federal matter. Indeed, there is bicameral, bipartisan support for preventing D.C. government shutdowns. In July, both the Republican-

led Oversight and Government Reform Committee and the Democratic-led Senate Appropriations Committee approved larger bills that contained the provision in this bill that would permanently authorize the D.C. government to spend its local funds during a Federal Government shutdown. The President's fiscal year 2013 budget also contained the shutdown-avoidance provision. The report accompanying the Republican-led House Appropriations Committee-passed fiscal year 2013 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill also acknowledged the harm of District government shutdowns.

The bill would permanently protect the more than 600,000 residents of the District of Columbia and the Federal Government from an unintended catastrophe in any future Federal Government shutdown. The District of Columbia raises and manages an \$8 billion local budget, but Congress technically appropriates these funds back to the District, an anachronistic holdover and throwback from the pre-home-rule era. Several years ago, Republican appropriators and I reached a bipartisan agreement to approve the District government's local budget in CRs, until the expiration of those CRs, allowing the District government to spend at next year's level, if the District government's regular appropriations bill has not been signed into law by the start of a fiscal year. We are grateful that this agreement has been honored through Democratic and Republican Congresses and administrations. This agreement has enabled District officials to operate complex, big-city functions more effectively than during the many years when the city's local budget was approved by Congress months after the start of a fiscal year. However, last Congress, we saw the limits of even this helpful agreement when the Federal Government almost shut down on multiple occasions, and we are facing a shutdown again this year.

If the District government shuts down, in addition to the vital municipal services that would cease, the District could default under certain financing agreements and leases. Tourists to this city, your constituents, not to mention federal officials, federal buildings, foreign embassies and dignitaries and businesses, rely daily on the city's services. Furthermore, forcing D.C. to operate under successive CRs greatly hinders the operations of the District government. Not only do successive CRs make it difficult for the city to plan its activities for the year, successive CRs greatly increase the city's costs of doing business. The city's partners, from Wall Street to small vendors, may charge it a risk premium due to the uncertainty created by successive CRs. These are not results the Congress envisions or desires as we approach the end of the fiscal year. Our bill would once and for all remove the Nation's Capital from the entanglement in federal matters and disputes for which the city has no blame or involvement.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

TRIBUTE TO ROSE KLEYWEG MITCHELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Hy-Vee, Inc.'s

Senior Vice President of Education and Governmental Affairs, Rose Kleyweg Mitchell. I have personally known Rose through her tireless advocacy for Hy-Vee and the grocery industry. Rose has led important initiatives to make our state and our fellow Iowans healthier by making more informed decisions about nutrition and the foods we eat.

Originally from Sioux City, Rose earned a bachelor's degree and education certificate in 1977 from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. Upon graduation, Mrs. Mitchell began teaching at West Des Moines' Valley High School while simultaneously pursuing part-time work at the local Hy-Vee food store. Two years later, Rose had joined Hy-Vee's corporate staff as the first in-house corporate trainer. Mrs. Mitchell would continue to rise through the ranks at Hy-Vee and ultimately assume the roles of Training Supervisor, Director of Training, and Assistant Vice President of Training. By 1996, Rose had been elected to the Board of Directors as the first female vice president where she oversaw Education, Training and Government affairs. Mrs. Mitchell was promoted to her current role as Senior Vice President in 2005.

Throughout her storied career, Rose's great work has been recognized through numerous honors and awards. Mrs. Mitchell was named the Hy-Vee Director of the Year in 1991, awarded the Simpson College Distinguished Alumni Achievement award in 1995, and received simultaneous awards in 2002 as the Greek Alumni and Advisor of the Year. Mrs. Mitchell is also a charter member of the Hy-Vee Toastmasters Club which she has helped shape through her leadership and award-winning performance.

In addition to her work with Iowa's largest private employer, Mrs. Mitchell has displayed an enduring and selfless commitment to her community. Rose has used her talents to serve as President of the Simpson College Alumni Association, hold national office for Delta Delta Delta Sorority, and lead in various roles with the Children's Convalescent Home and Habilitation Center, United Way, and the Unity Point Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Rose's contribution to Hy-Vee and to the great state of Iowa cannot be overstated. While Mrs. Mitchell's expertise and experience are sure to be missed, she leaves behind a truly grateful community and an excellent example of service for which to strive. I wish Rose and her husband Jerry nothing but the best as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

**IN HONOR OF MR. JESSE OWENS
100TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Mr. Jesse Owens on the 100th anniversary of his birthday. James Cleveland Owens was born the son of a sharecropper on a farm in Oakville, Alabama on September 12, 1913. It's been said the family sold its only valuable possession, their mule, in order to travel to Cleveland, Ohio in search of a better life. A teacher at his new school, misunderstanding when James Cleveland told her his

name was J.C., called him Jesse, and the name stuck.

When Jesse entered junior high school, the track team coach noticed his ability to run and jump and recruited him for the team. By the time Jesse entered high school, he was a track star. He set many school records and continued to do so after entering college at Ohio State University.

In 1935, Jesse entered the Big Ten Championship held at Ann Arbor, Michigan where he tied one world record and set three new ones. His long jump record of 26 feet 8.25 inches went unbroken for 25 years.

In 1936, he competed in the Summer Olympics in Berlin, Germany, where he won four gold medals, the most ever won by an individual up until that time. In doing so, Jesse Owens proved that Adolph Hitler's Nazi views of Aryan superiority were inaccurate and that anyone, regardless of race, religion or national origin can achieve greatness.

Owens was a motivational speaker for much of his post-Olympics life and devoted much of his time to youth sports programs for underprivileged children. He earned many awards, among them the Medal of Freedom and the Presidential Living Legends Award.

Owens died of lung cancer in 1980, with his wife, Ruth, and his three daughters by his side. He hasn't been forgotten, though. Thousands of admirers visit Jesse Owens Park and Museum in Oakville, AL each year, many of them from Germany and other foreign countries.

On a monument dedicated to his memory in 1983 and now on display at Jesse Owens Memorial Park are the words, "He inspired a world enslaved in tyranny and brought hope to his fellow man . . . from the cotton fields of Oakville to the acclaim of the entire world, he made us all proud to be called Lawrence Countians."

I am thankful for the life and legacy of Jesse Owens, because of his tremendous athletic achievements as well as the inspiration he provided to millions here and around the world.

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,557,190,345.35. We've added \$6,111,680,141,432.27 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

**HONORING THE TUSKEGEE AIR-
MEN FROM WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA**

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, we rise to pay special tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen, a

group of African American servicemembers who served our nation honorably and with distinction in World War II. In recognition of their service and sacrifice, the Tuskegee Airmen were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal on March 29, 2007. Although the Airmen are now well known for their wartime accomplishments, their feats of heroism went unheralded for decades.

Western Pennsylvania produced more Tuskegee Airmen than any other region in the United States. Hailing from cities and towns across Western Pennsylvania, including places like Erie, Aliquippa, Washington, Pittsburgh and Johnstown, ninety-five men and one woman served as flight instructors, pilots, bombardiers, navigators, and flight-line personnel.

They and their fellow Airmen served in the 332nd Fighter Group, which was based at the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Tuskegee, Alabama.

By the end of the war, the Airmen flew more than 1,500 missions and 15,500 sorties in North Africa, continental Europe, and Sicily. The Fighter Group shot down 112 enemy aircraft, destroyed 150 planes on the ground, and boasted one of the most successful escort records in the military.

Western Pennsylvanians contributed honorably to this legacy.

Lieutenant Robert Johnson, an honors graduate of Schenley High School in Pittsburgh, was the youngest Tuskegee pilot commissioned in the Army Air Corps.

Lieutenants Elmer Taylor and James Wright of Pittsburgh and Carl Woods of Mars were killed in action.

Lieutenant Cornelius Gould, a graduate of Westinghouse High School in Pittsburgh, was shot down, captured, and held as a prisoner of war.

Lieutenant Calvin Smith of Aliquippa stood against discrimination when a group of African American officers were denied entry into an officers' club at Freeman Field.

Rosa Alford, the lone female from Western Pennsylvania, returned after serving honorably during the war to give back to her community, as a counselor at New Brighton High School in Beaver County.

On September 15, 2013, the country's largest outdoor memorial for the Tuskegee Airmen will be dedicated in Sewickley, Pennsylvania. This memorial will serve as fitting tribute to these individuals and all Tuskegee Airmen who served the United States with bravery, honor and distinction. They exemplify the very best our Commonwealth and nation have to offer. Amidst hardship and discrimination, the Airmen rose to the challenge and answered the call to service.

We are proud of these Western Pennsylvanians and honored to recognize them today.

HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHEF'S RESTAURANT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 90th anniversary of one of Buffalo's most beloved dining establishments, Chef's Restaurant.

In 1923, Chef's Restaurant opened its doors on the corner of Seneca and Chicago, and soon established itself as a fixture in the neighborhood.

During the restaurant's early years, a hard-working employee named Lou Billittier began to move his way up the ranks. Beginning as a dishwasher and busboy, Lou was promoted to a waiter. Eventually, he earned the title of restaurant manager.

By 1950, Lou had become co-owner of Chef's. Four years later, he stood proudly as the sole owner of the neighborhood staple.

For over 60 years, Chef's has stayed true to their motto, "Where family and friends meet to eat." The late Lou Billittier, along with his daughter Mary Beth and son Louis John, have worked tirelessly to run their establishment according to the values of community involvement and customer service. The Billittiers believe in being involved in the restaurant's day-to-day process, and know that a personal touch goes a long way.

Over the years, Chef's has mastered blending tradition and innovation. The restaurant began with just seven tables and a small banquet room. Three years ago, they implemented a drive-through window which enabled the restaurant's sales to increase. Now, the famous dining establishment is innovating again with their plans to create a food truck that will take Chef's notable Italian cuisine to the streets of Buffalo.

In addition to their renowned restaurant, the Billittiers are known for their charity. Lou Billittier memorably had former Buffalo Sabre Rob Ray shave his head in front of a crowd of supporters for "Bald for Bucks," a fundraiser for cancer research and patient support programs at Roswell Park Cancer Institute.

On September 11th, 2013, in honor of its 90th anniversary, the restaurant will play host to the "World's Largest Pasta Dinner." Proceeds from the event will benefit the Wounded Warriors Project which honors and empowers wounded U.S. troops and assists in making their post-service transition a smooth one.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize Chef's Italian Restaurant for providing 90 years of dining and community service to Western New York, as well as the Billittier family for their continued hard work and generosity. As one of my personal favorites, I am proud to honor their legacy today, and I wish them the absolute best in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING COLLEGE HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor College Hill Missionary Baptist Church, which was organized in 1907 under an oak tree on the south side of Florence Avenue in west Jackson, Mississippi approximately 100 yards from its present site. College Hill emerged from humble beginnings and has made continual advancement in all phases of development.

After an initial period of services in Robinson Hall, located on Rose and Pascagoula streets, the present site was set aside by Dr.

L. G. Barrett, the second president of Jackson College (now Jackson State University), as a gift to the people of west Jackson for religious services theory. Thus the bond between this church and the college was formed. The designated tract was to be used for none other than religious purposes.

The church was a frame building with no classrooms, kitchen, nor plumbing. After growth in membership, some renovations were made. In 1957, under the leadership of Reverend R. E. Willis, the Education Building was completed in 1967. The sanctuary was modernized and the church grew to full-time worship and an organization composed of various auxiliaries.

Under the leadership of Reverend Hoses J. Hine, pastor since August 1990, College Hill has experienced tremendous growth through restructuring, revitalization and initiation of new ministries. With Evangelism as the focus, membership has increased dramatically and the budget has grown consistently, College Hill has moved to two Sunday morning services, 8:00 and 11:00, and study service and activity throughout the week.

Building on a solid foundation, Pastor Hines ushered in the concept of Team Ministry. In addition to Evangelism, Christian Education, Community Outreach, Extended Ministries (Food, clothing and Health Care), Children and Youth Ministry have become major focuses.

In October 2000, College Hill completed and dedicated a new modern Family Life Center. Plans are underway for a new 700 seat new sanctuary. Founded on principles of ministry, mission and Christian education, College Hill's major focus for the future is evangelism (Matthew 28: 19-20).

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing College Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

EASTLAKE ALL-STARS

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the extraordinary merit of the Eastlake All-Stars from Sammamish, WA today, September 12, 2013.

The Eastlake All-Stars (Northwest) won the WA state championship, and then the regional championship, defeating Billings, Montana (Big Sky Little League) 13-1 in four innings. They advanced as far as the United States semi-final of the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Their route was inspirational. After losing to New England, they rallied to defeat the Southwest, Midwest, and Southeast teams before advancing to the semi-final. Facing off against New England once again in a rollercoaster game, they were defeated 13-14.

Throughout the Little League World Series they demonstrated great cohesion and teamwork. Congratulations to the Eastlake All-Stars for an outstanding tournament at the Little League World Series; they are deserving of every special recognition. The players and coaches who made this excellent season possible are listed below.

Players: Will Armbruester, Cameron Bowlers, Adam Carper, Jack Carper, Dalton Chandler, Jacob Dahlstrom, Bryce Delay, Nathan

Fitzgibbons, Jack Matheson, Dylan Matsuoka, Austin Oh, Zack Olson, Jack Rud, and Jack Titus.

Coaches: Rob Chandler, Matt Fitzgibbons, and Jamie Matsuoka.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND DESIGNATING MAY 16, 2014 AS "NATIONAL NONPROFIT DAY"

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the importance of nonprofit organizations and designating May 16, 2014 as "National Nonprofit Day." I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my friend and colleague, Congressman TOM ROONEY for introducing this resolution with me.

Nonprofit organizations have made many important contributions to our nation. Over the past decade, the number of nonprofits has risen steadily, and there are approximately 2.3 million of them now operating in the United States. Whether these groups are working to improve education or to protect environmental resources, they all have the same goals: to enact meaningful change in our world and to improve human lives.

Many nonprofits support science and research that will have a significant impact on future generations. For instance, there are nonprofit organizations that support research to fight diseases such as Cancer and HIV/AIDS. Many other organizations advocate for vulnerable populations across the globe—for refugees, for the homeless, and for our nation's veterans. They educate and teach, as well as engage with local communities to improve the quality of life for all.

In addition to being a force for change and progress, the nonprofit sector is vital to the economic security of the United States. In fact, the growth rate of the nonprofit sector has surpassed the rate of both the business and government sector. In 2010, nonprofits added nearly \$780 billion to our national GDP and employed 1 in 10 working Americans. Nonprofit organizations also facilitate charitable giving and community activism, and the combined donations and volunteer hours of individuals to nonprofits are worth billions of dollars annually.

But perhaps most importantly, nonprofit organizations are founded and managed by people trying to make the world a better place. Whether they are abroad or at home, the work that these men and women do is incredibly meaningful. Without the people behind these organizations—working tirelessly to change the world, sometimes just one life at a time—the nonprofit sector would not be the force for good that it has become today.

Mr. Speaker, nonprofit organizations advocate for solutions to some of the great challenges facing our nation and the world, and they deserve to be recognized for their valuable contributions to society. No matter their focus, nonprofits play a pivotal role in shaping the future of America. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and to join me in designating May 16, 2014 as "National Nonprofit Day."

RECOGNIZING THE CHEEKTOWAGA PATRIOTIC COMMISSION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission as they are awarded the 2013 Community Service Award by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission was established almost 40 years ago in response to the Town of Cheektowaga's designation as a National Bicentennial Community by the state and federal governments. The founding officers devoted their time to planning a number of activities to celebrate our nation's 200th birthday, including a flag pole dedication, Appreciation Days for the Town's veterans and firemen, and the unveiling of the Town's Bicentennial Calendar. Their dedication demonstrates the pride the officers have in their country, which is both honorable and commendable.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission continues their great work today, giving residents and businesses in Cheektowaga the opportunity to show their patriotism. The group sponsors and coordinates the July 4th Parade as well as the activities and fireworks display in Town Park. These activities bring together the community to celebrate their pride in the United States of America.

The Commission donates their time and talent to projects that benefit and entertain the residents of Cheektowaga and Western New York. They worked with the Town Park Homeowners Association, the Polish-American Festival Committee, the Federation of German-American Societies, and the Cheektowaga Cultural Society to establish a pavilion in Town Park.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize my good friends in the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission for the important role they have played in our community for the past 40 years. I sincerely appreciate their efforts, and wish them much continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING BIG SURF WATERPARK

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Big Surf Waterpark, a beloved institution of Tempe, Arizona for the past 44 years, for their designation as a Historical Mechanical Engineering Landmark by the Arizona delegation of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

No other amusement or water park has received this honor, and Big Surf is just the third landmark designated in Arizona by the ASME. It is easy to forget how innovative the design of Big Surf's Waikiki Beach Wave Pool was at the park's opening in 1969. Phil Dexter invented the wave generation process after a 1965 trip to the California coast. He sought to

recreate ocean waves, first building a tabletop prototype for which he applied for patent rights in 1966, and then a 1,000-gallon, 40-foot by 30-foot prototype in an abandoned billiard hall. The Big Surf pool is an exact replica of the model and was built, designed, and engineered by John Hauskins, then a 19-year-old student at the University of Arizona, at the scale of 2.5 million gallons of re-circulating water within a span of 2.5 acres. To this day, children enjoy the same original components for generating waves as they did in 1969, and Mr. Hauskins continues to serve our county in innovative ways as director of transportation.

The innovations at Big Surf have come to define the waterpark industry and signify, then and now, the spirit of industry prevalent in Arizona's Ninth District. I am proud to congratulate Big Surf Waterpark, Phil Dexter, and John Hauskins on their honor conferred by ASME, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT TRENT BROWN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trent Brown of Boy Scout Troop 120 in Solon, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Trent landscaped and installed a bench and grill at Lake Macbride State Park. The work ethic Trent has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Trent on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING MORING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Moring Star Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

In the summer of 1925, Moring Star Baptist Church came into existence as a result of a split from Pearlie Grove Baptist Church of

Jackson, Mississippi. Reverend Albert Thornton organized Morning Star Baptist Church with fifteen members in 1925. Services were held in Cuney Hall, located on the corner of Farish and Amite Streets. There was only one Deacon, Ike Brown. Two months later, five additional deacons were appointed: I.S. Brown, John Pearson, Lee James, Bill McCuring and Dempsey Lewis. Brothers Leonard Wilson, H.C. Carter and Landy McWright served as trustees. The first mothers were Lula Lofton, Carter and McQuine. The first church clerk was Clarence Winter.

The Missionary Society was organized by Sister Lula Lofton who served as its president; the Sunday School was organized by Brother Sell Mason who served as superintendent; the Baptist Training Union was organized by Brother Leonard Wilson who served as director and the Senior Choir was organized by Deacon I.S. Brown who served as president. Deacon Brown later organized other choirs and directed them for more than 29 years.

The first revival service was held under a tent on Hamilton Street with Reverend Billy Sunday, from Alabama, serving as evangelist. During this service, 25 candidates for baptism were received. Baptism took place in the Pearl River.

Under the pastorate of Reverend Thornton, land was purchased to build a church; however, Reverend Thornton resigned in 1928. Reverend James Beard and Reverend Richard Hardis then led the church for short periods. Reverend N.C. Johnson later elected as pastor, and a frame church was built. Upon completion of the church, Reverend Johnson resigned. In 1930, the church chose Reverend John H. Sims as pastor and he served for four years. Reverend P.E. Lott was invited to conduct revival services in June 1934, and was chosen as pastor in September of 1934. His administration lasted for 31 years, September 1934 through January 1966.

During those 31 years, Sister Lula Newman served as president of the Missionary Society. Several organizations were formed, which included the J.M.A., Matron's League, Y.W.A., Sunshine Band, Red Circle, Crusaders and the Pastor's Aide Club which was organized by Sister M.A. Roebuck. Membership grew rapidly and after a short period, it became apparent that a larger building was needed to accommodate the worship service. Thus, a massive building program was started. A large edifice was erected at 960 Kane Street in 1947. Upon Reverend Lott's resignation, he

recommended that Reverend Sterling Jones be accepted. Reverend Jones was immediately elected and preached his first sermon on February 13, 1965. Morning Star continued to grow, and a small plot of land was purchased directly behind the church with the intention of expanding. It was later decided that a new site was needed. Two and one-half acres of land located at 3420 Albermarle Road was purchased. This land serves as home of the present church. Reverend Jones resigned as pastor on January 25, 1970, and on March 30, 1970, Dr. M.K. Nelson was elected as the 8th pastor. Under Dr. Nelson's leadership, he designed a half-million dollar structure which was liquidated during the first week of May 1988. On April 16, 2001, after several years of illness, God called Dr. Nelson to eternal rest. The valiant men and women of this church who kept the faith through trials and tribulations give light in a dark world, peace to the troubled, compassion to the weary and love to all God's children.

On March 9, 2002, Reverend John Russell Johnson, Jr., was elected to be the 9th pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church. Under his leadership, Morning Star has grown into a large, more diversified congregation with essential ministries for internal study, growth and external outreach. The following ministries were adopted under Pastor Johnson: Daughters of Destiny, Prison, Crown, Greeters, Brotherhood, Assimilation, Children's Church, Transportation, Young Adult Choir, and Adopt-A-School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Morning Star Baptist Church.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER LARRY CANNAN UPON THE OC- CASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable career of Chief Warrant Officer Larry Cannan upon the occasion of his retirement. After nearly thirty years of dutiful service to our country in the United States Coast Guard, Larry will be retiring on August 24, 2013. Larry bravely chose to enlist in the United States Coast Guard in August

1982. Initially joining the Reserve Unit in San Diego as a Petty Officer 3rd Class, he remained in California for two years until his transfer to Buffalo, New York.

Throughout his years of service, Larry steadily advanced in rank. While serving in Buffalo, he obtained his coxswain qualification and certification.

After participating in port security unit training operations in Ahuas Tara, Honduras, Larry was called into active duty. During the first Gulf War, he selflessly served in both Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia from September 1990 to April 1991. Just three years later, Larry was once again called into active duty for Operation Restore Democracy in Haiti. Using his expertise in port security, Larry instructed training units in Valdez, Alaska in April 1995, and was a participant in training operation Marcot 96 in Nova Scotia, Canada.

In January 2001, Larry advanced to Petty Officer 1st Class, transferring to the Group Buffalo Field Intelligence Team. Two years later, he was promoted to Port Security Chief Petty Officer and completed the Chief Petty Officer Academy.

November 2006 saw Larry return to active duty as a First Coast Guard Fulltime Liaison Officer to the International Border Intelligence Team in Ottawa, Canada, where he served until February 2007. In August 2008, he commissioned as Chief Warrant Officer at Sector Buffalo Intelligence and completed Indoctrination School at the Coast Guard Academy.

Larry's last service in active duty ran from May 2010 to August 2010 for Operation Deepwater Horizon. Called into service by the Atlantic Area Logistics Unit, Larry was commended as responsible for 1/3 of the production of the 6 member unit.

From March until June in 2012, Larry authored and obtained approval as a Project Officer of Operation Spring Break, a sector Buffalo intelligence joint operation in cooperation with U.S. Border Patrol conducted along the St. Lawrence River in Ogdensburg, New York. For his exemplary service, Larry was commended for the success of the operation and distinct honor of it being the first operation of its kind in the 9th district.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize the truly outstanding career and service of Larry. I am sincerely grateful for his service, and wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.